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cataffairs

cat protection society
OF NSW INC.



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Cat Affairs is your magazine, so tell us what you think.

Feel free to send us an email at kristina@catprotection.org.au or post us a letter with your feedback.

We welcome contributions from readers, but we reserve the right to edit, abridge, alter or reject any material.

Cat Protection does not pay for contributions.

Not a member of Cat Protection?

For just \$35 a year you can receive your own copy of *Cat Affairs* four times a year and help give cats a voice.

Membership forms available from our website www.catprotection.org.au or by phoning our office on 02 9519 7201.

Care for cats!

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President's Report

Many changes are underway in the world of charities and animal welfare. The new Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) has been established by the federal government to streamline regulation of the sector – a welcome move that will improve transparency and accountability, and also provide clearer guidance to the sector.

The NSW Government has released the discussion paper of the Companion Animals Taskforce (of which Cat Protection is a member). The paper canvasses wide-ranging reforms and submissions will be accepted until 1 July. We encourage members to participate in this important initiative for animal welfare.

As you may know, we are a relatively small charity. To put that in some context, our entire annual operating budget is less than the NSW RSPCA spends each year on fundraising. However, we have the same accountability obligations as any large charity. At Cat Protection, we are constantly mindful of the need to focus our funds and attention on our core business of caring for cats but we cannot neglect our legal obligations, we have to invest in good business practices, and we have to participate in and understand the 'big picture' of animal (feline) welfare.

Our Board closely examines our expenditure throughout the year and we are satisfied that Cat Protection's core charitable purpose of caring for cats is not just constantly met, but achieved effectively and efficiently. In every issue of *Cat Affairs* you can see just some of the cats for whom we have found loving and responsible homes.

What you may not see, but which is just as significant, is the outcomes for the cats of people we have helped; for example, when we have assisted people in rental and strata situations to keep their cat. Every cat who stays with their owner is one less cat in a pound or shelter.

We give advice to people from all over NSW to help them manage their cats' health or behavioural problems – problems that are often putting the cats at risk of surrender. Our discount desexing program ensures more and more cats in the community will not contribute to feline overpopulation. We provide assistance where we can to human health services to help their clients with their cats – whether by donating cat food, providing advice, desexing, or rehoming cats from situations at risk of domestic squalor.

We also contribute to public policy affecting cats and people: our work on community care and cats, pet-friendly accommodation and the Companion Animals Taskforce are just some examples. And of course, we've reunited lost cats with their people and we give advice on finding lost cats. Finally, we provide free information on our website that helps people solve their cat problems themselves.

For every cat we rehome from our shelter, there are at least another five we assist who aren't in our physical care. It's a huge achievement for a small charity, and one of which we are very proud. We hope that you will continue to support our efforts.

Rhonda House
President



Cover photograph of Neil by Kari Krall



Senior cats

By Dr Kim Kendall, BVSc, MACVSc

Only time and patience can grow you a garden or an old friend. Our feline friends are maturing and ageing more gracefully than they used to, due to good food, good owners and timely veterinary intervention.

A cat at 13 years old is metabolically the same as a 70 year old person, and by 19 they are in their feline 90s! As with our seniors and their doctors, routine check-ups of your venerable feline friend will pick up problems early, be less costly to treat, and maximise their time with you. If you want your familiar feline family member to be with you, comfortably, for as long as possible, then "A visit to the vet in time – saves Nine – lives"!

The big three issues for our senior felines are arthritis, dental disease and kidney function.

Arthritis

We used to think that cats did not get arthritis, and that slowing down was just a function of growing old. Now we know that 90 per cent of cats over the age of 10 years have arthritis (in fact, 30 per cent of cats over 3 years old have it!) and we all appreciate that chronic pain is debilitating. The good news is that there are now some great ways to alleviate that pain and your oldie will even start playing again! If you feline friend (of any age) is not able to jump up on your kitchen bench easily (or over the garden fence) then think about addressing their pain.

Acupuncture. It is actually called Aquapuncture because under sedation / pain relief, the vet injects Vitamin B12 into the Acupuncture Points. It means your cat only has one visit, is pretty immediately free of pain, and the results usually last one to two years. Eighty per cent of the cats treated have done extremely well. In addition, there are Omega-3 supplements (Feline Omega-Joint), a special Feline Joint Diet (from Hill's), Deer Velvet tablets, Green Lip Mussel supplements, safe pain relieving drugs, and a course of injections (Pentosan Polysulfate - originally developed for racehorses but cats benefit as well). The NSAID drug Meloxicam has recently been shown to not only alleviate arthritis pain, but also to extend the functional life of kidneys - Clever Cats!

Dental disease

Dental deterioration is the next chronic problem our feline friends have - basically because they don't brush their teeth, fluoride does not help them, and only catching and eating mice is preventative. Because those germs in the mouth affect a cat's whole body, dental disease puts pressure on the immune system and the kidneys in particular, plus



Dr Kim Kendall with a patient

bad teeth are sore. Major dental work involves removing those teeth before the root abscesses cause bigger problems. The canines or long front teeth should remain as long as possible for face shape and self-defence, but removing all the back teeth results in longer kidney life, reduced pain and much better breath!

Human periodontists have proved that taking out all the teeth of homeless people results in a lot fewer trips to hospital, and much better heart health (the human weak point). Cats are just as keen to stay away from hospital, and a 'caudal clearance' helps them to do that. There is no proven benefit to just polishing cat's teeth - and even if you brush them afterwards, they are just not designed to last. And even cats with no back teeth can still CATch rats and mice - they just can't peel them!

Kidneys

Kidneys are a cat's weak point. Fifty per cent of cats die of kidney failure and the other half from cancer (with only a few expiring from heart problems and other metabolic disturbances). Now that there is so much more we can do to help keep feline kidneys functioning for longer, the cats just keep on going!



Justin, 11 years

Kidney function should be regularly checked with urine tests and blood pressure measurements (yes, feline and canine blood pressure can be assessed with paediatric cuffs and a special doppler machine). The procedures are painless – the cats think it is strange but they rarely object. They must know it is for their own good.

Managing blood pressure with drugs, and changing the diet to help the kidneys function better, has resulted in many venerable souls living a very high quality of life for many extra years. The use of prescription renal diets, plus the supplement Ipakatine (for the 'non-renal' meals) means cats can have their favourite food AND stabilise their kidney's workload! Omega-3 supplements and other anti-oxidant additives in the senior diets do make a difference over the long term.

For the chronic kidney and bladder infections that are common in the elderly of all species, the long-acting (14 day) antibiotic injection (ConveniaR) is a godsend for felines – pretty effective and only one or two trips to the vet – not daily pills. With a combination of these things, plus controlling blood pressure (with the same medications as people take), kidney function can be extended to nearly match that of a kidney transplant. Now THAT'S something!

Diabetes and hyperthyroidism

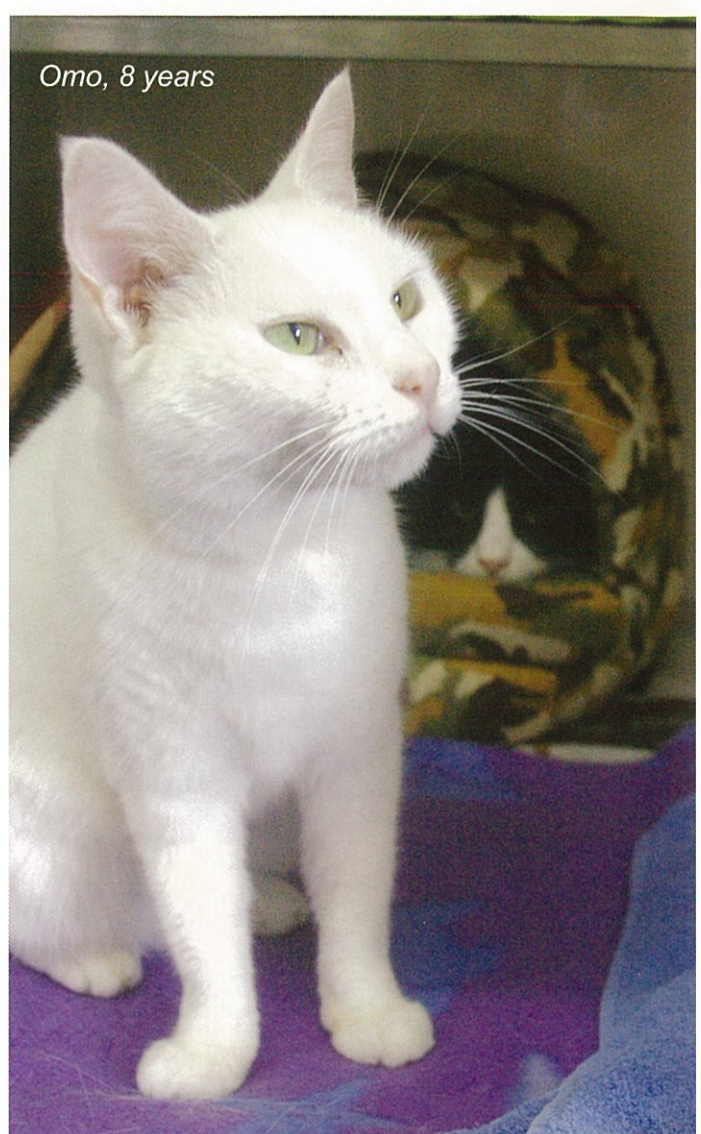
These are the two other common, but manageable diseases of elderly cats. Urine and blood tests can identify them, and there are a range of treatments – varying from the 'Catkins' diet for the diabetic feline (increased protein, eliminate most carbs) to the radioactive Iodine treatment that is the same as you would have if your thyroid became overactive.

Cancer

There are as many kinds of cancers in cats as there are in humans. Early desexing almost eliminates mammary and prostate cancer (think about that for a minute), but almost every other kind has been found to occur. Few are amenable to cure, some can be managed with drugs of varying toxicity.

Just because a cancer is found (and they are usually malignant and on the inside of the cat, so hidden from detection) does not mean it has to be treated. Their cancers seem to be less painful – a cat will stop eating if in pain or nauseous, so while your cat is happy and interactive, the time you have after a 'terminal diagnosis' is yours to enjoy with your feline companion.

And sometimes the toughest question when you have a feline friend (whether for a long time or not): when is enough, enough? The final parting is so hard and you can never be ready to let your feline friend go. Sometimes, you just have to know that tomorrow is not going to be any better, and make the brave decision to euthanase. Sometimes, in the end, you can only prevent suffering, and that is the greatest gift.



Dr Kim Kendall is a specialist in feline medicine and animal behaviour based in Chatswood. She graduated and started her own cats-only clinic in Sydney last century and has spent years developing expertise in primary care cat medicine, and collating cat-related information for clinical and behavioural interventions.

In her practice particularly, she has discovered that the well-fed, contained cat can be contented and healthy enough to live a life long enough to require geriatric juggling of multiple medical issues.

She tells us that: "In order for the urban feline to live long enough, the owners of the cats must oftentimes be counselled as to the reasonable expectations they can have of their feline friend. This is where the mind matters to the medicine. Yes, cats do get psychosomatic illnesses. Yes, they are smart enough to need anti-depressants."

Dr Kendall does regular annual Senior Health Check weeks – usually the last week of August – where she does a full health check plus urine and blood pressure tests at a discounted rate. Go to www.catclinic.com.au or phone 1800 CAT VET.

If you are at all concerned about your elderly feline, then book to see your vet now.

CAT PROTECTION DIARY



Companion Animals – have your say!

The NSW Government has released the Companion Animals Taskforce discussion paper and submissions will be accepted until 1 July 2012.

The paper and on-line submission form are available from the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet website:

www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/CATaskforce

We urge everyone who cares about animal welfare to consider this report and take the time to give feedback – our animal friends need you to speak up for them.

We congratulate the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page, and the Minister for Primary Industries, the Hon Katrina Hodgkinson, for establishing the Taskforce, and also the Member for Charlestown, veterinarian Andrew Cornwell, for his work as Chairman.

The Taskforce discussion paper covers a wide range of measures that aim to reduce the current rate of euthanasia for cats and dogs; refine the current regulatory framework around the breeding and sale of cats and dogs to improve welfare outcomes; and to promote socially responsible pet ownership. As a member of the Taskforce, Cat Protection can attest to the level of work that has gone into developing this discussion paper and we encourage all members to get involved in this important opportunity to inform public policy.

Close to the heart of Cat Protection is consideration of proposals that would make more rental and strata accommodation 'pet-friendly'. There is a shortage of pet-friendly accommodation and we see Sydney's

feline victims of this every week. It is heartbreaking for the cats and their people, and there are many sensible options that could change this situation without negatively affecting landlords or neighbours.

The issues of companion animal welfare are complex. Cats and dogs are a part of human life, so considering their needs also requires consideration of human behaviour – hence education and information are very important.

We will be holding two consultation sessions for members on the discussion paper. Each session will be the same, just running at different times:

- Thursday, 14 June at 6.30pm – 8pm
- Monday, 18 June at 3pm – 4.30pm

These will be held at Cat Protection at 103 Enmore Road, Newtown. **Bookings are essential** – please phone 9519 7201 between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday and let us know which session time you prefer. You do not need to attend to make a submission to the inquiry.

Wouldn't it be fantastic if we had more pet-friendly accommodation? How many unplanned litters of kittens would be prevented if there was an incentive for early-age desexing? Think of the benefits of broader education and information on socially responsible pet ownership, and what could be achieved with greater collaboration between councils and animal welfare organisations. Do you want to support steps to curb puppy farming?

Don't just wish, act! Please participate in this important initiative to bring about better outcomes for cats and dogs in NSW.

CAT PROTECTION DIARY



Fabric-a-brac. Photo by Angus Lee Forbes

Fabric-a-brac

On Sunday 6 May, Cat Protection had a very successful stall at Fabric-a-brac, a community-based market at Petersham Town Hall selling everything for people who sew and make craft.

Ellen and Sam sold fabrics, patterns, craft books, zippers, buttons and all manner of crafty bibs-and-bobs that we collected from our Op Shop.

They met some wonderful people on the day, including a lovely lady who donated \$20 "just for the cats".

Our Op Shop still has lots of good quality wool and knitting needles for sale, so if you can "knit one, purl one", stay warm this winter and grab your supplies from our Op Shop or simply enjoy a treasure hunt – you never know what fabulous items you will find.

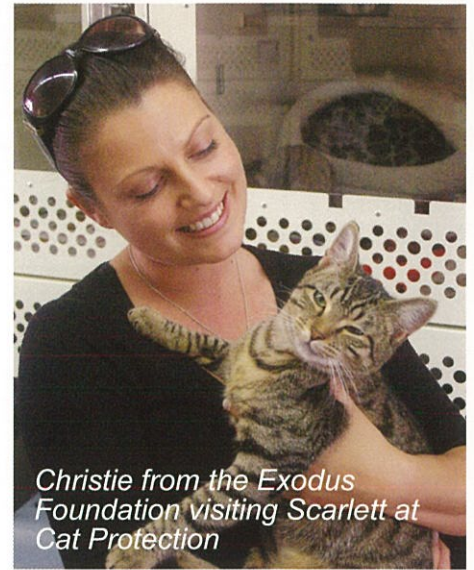
Thank you to all the kind people who donate goods to our Op Shop, to the volunteers who look after the shop and of course, our customers.

Exodus cats

We learned that the Exodus Foundation looks after a number of cats (all desexed) at their site in Ashfield when the Reverend Bill Crews came to bless our cats on World Animal Day in 2010.

The cats enjoy the companionship of staff and clients, and dedicated volunteers tend to their feline needs. We've kept in touch with our friends at Exodus Foundation and have made donations of food and care products to assist with the cats' wellbeing.

Recently, we enjoyed a visit from Christie who works with the Reverend (and shares office space with Lucky the cat). We're pleased to help Exodus celebrate the wonderful bond between people and cats.



Christie from the Exodus Foundation visiting Scarlett at Cat Protection



Membership reminder

Membership renewals are due in June.

As a member of Cat Protection you don't just get *Cat Affairs* four times a year and keep up with what is going on in the world of feline matters, you lend your voice to the cats who cannot speak for themselves.

A membership renewal form is enclosed with this issue or you can renew on line at www.catprotection.org.au – if you have any questions about membership, please call our office. If you are a Life Member, annual fees are not payable.

Thank you to all our supporters for your kindness.

Road safety

Percy was run over by a car on a busy road in Marrickville. A woman saw him bravely dragging himself across the road to the footpath. She picked him up and took him to Earlwood Vet, where they provided initial treatment, and he then came to Cat Protection.

Further veterinary care revealed he needed to have his tail amputated, and he then went into foster care with one of our Feline Services staff. He recovered, grew strong and healthy and returned to us where he enjoyed playing with other kittens in the courtyard.

Percy quickly found his loving forever home and we're sure that his joie de vivre continues to delight his new family, who tell us he has a new name: "My son, being five, thought that a prominent characteristic of a kitten ought to be their name so he insisted on Stumpy."

This year we've seen many feline victims of traffic: please remember roads are very dangerous places for cats so if your cat does go outside, try to cat-proof your fence so they are confined safely to your property. We have DIY guides on our website – look under 'cat care and health' 'responsible cat ownership'.

SCRATCHING POST

Dear CPS

We adopted Heather in February this year as a companion for Chilli Pepper. Heather was another shy girl, but adapted to her new home quite quickly. Her routine consists of a very playful morning followed by a curious walk around and then long siestas. As for companionship, so far her sister is resisting all attempts at friendliness. The house is divided into battle stations with the kitchen as the demilitarised zone in between. We are hopeful that one day soon this will change.

Thank you to Alison and the CPS team for introducing us to Heather.

Garry & David



Heather at home

Hi Chanel

We absolutely adore the new addition to the family! Pepsi-Max is such a fun-loving, mischievous, affectionate kitten and is very well cared for and loved in his new home.

He is an indoor cat but we take him outside for adventures with his harness – he's even been to the beach! He really liked it, we popped him on a beach towel under the umbrella and he had a little nap. His other favourite pastime is destroying our venetian blinds!

He has quickly become the most popular family member and we couldn't imagine life without him. Thank you for rescuing him and bringing him into our lives!

Jessica & James



Pepsi-Max at the beach



Pepsi-Max just arrived

SCRATCHING POST

Hi

We recently adopted a lovely little active kitten from the Society and named her Vera. She and Pablo (our 6 year old Chinchilla) are now the best of friends ☺

One of Vera's favourite spots is sitting on the ledge near the bathtub where she can play with the bubbles, and she also enjoys watching TV – very closely mind you!

We are very much in love with her as the newest member of our family. Thank you for taking such good care of her and all the help with the adoption ☺

Kind regards

Diana

To all the cats awaiting adoption

Best wishes from Tilley and Rose, adopted January 2010

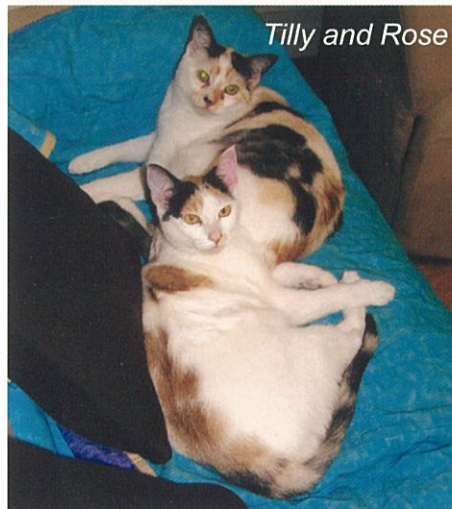
Hi Camilla

Camo has settled in beautifully, and we are all thrilled with him. He spent the first couple of hours hiding under a bed but has since proved an active and engaged family member.

He is very tolerant of the possibly excessive handling he is receiving



Vera



Tilly and Rose

from the kids, and actively seeks them out. We are going to keep him as an indoor cat as there is a lot of wildlife around us. He has had his first trip to the vet for his vaccination.

Kind regards

Belinda



Camo

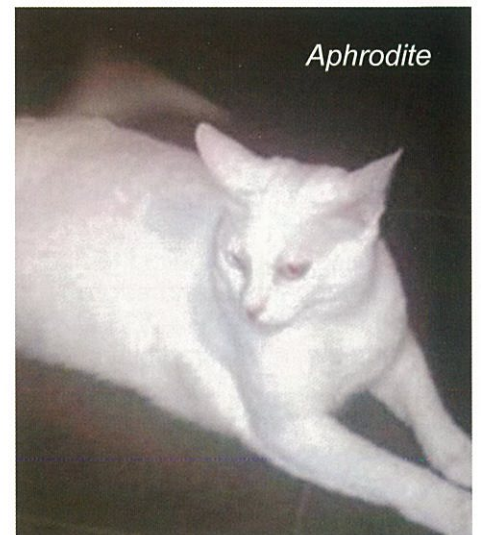
Hello

Although my earth name is Frieda, I have a new spiritual name, αφροδίτη (in English, Aphrodite). Legend says Aphrodite had no childhood: in every image and each reference she is born as an adult. I have arrived with my new parents aged 18 months. True to Greek mythology, I am a little ill-tempered and easily offended but that's OK, they'll get used to me. I am also very affectionate.

My cat parent came to take me home yesterday from the Cat Protection Society. When we arrived we watched a cat DVD on the sofa together, it had lots of water and bird noises. We explored the house together. So many places to find and best of all, no other cats but me! I was excited but ate some dinner and played with some new toys and ran up and down the stairs in the apartment at will, I even ventured onto my new courtyard in the sky, with supervision. At around 9.30pm I couldn't keep my eyes open any longer and they found me stretched out on a white doona on the bed from which I didn't move until 6 o'clock this morning. I'm home and I think I like it.

Aphie (via Carole)

PS Thank you all at Cat Protection for taking such good care of me



Aphrodite

SCRATCHING POST

Hi Cat Protection Society

I have attached some photos of Edward, the white and champagne shorthair, adopted in 2006 and Garfield, the ginger part Persian, adopted in 2005. Both cats are affectionate and relaxed in our home.

Thank you for having these animals to enrich our lives.

Lindsay and Marnie-Ruth

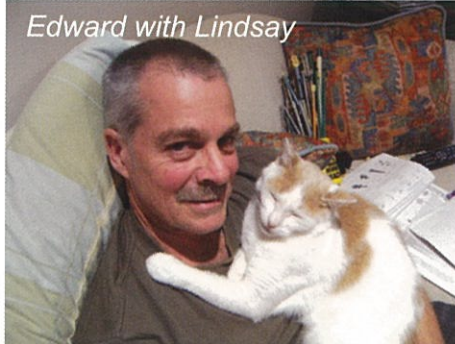


Garfield

Max



Edward with Lindsay



Hi Molly

Max has been fantastic. I am so glad to have brought him in to my life. He is the sweetest thing on earth.

The house is pretty big and he seems to have lots of fun jumping up and down the stairs most of the time. I have given him so much freedom, now his toys and blanket take up half the sofa and the entire chaise - kind of makes sense since he is the one who stays in the house the most.

I bought two carved wooden elephants last weekend and Max has been giving them the daggers ... kinda weird. He gives me the daggers too when I eat chicken in front of him!

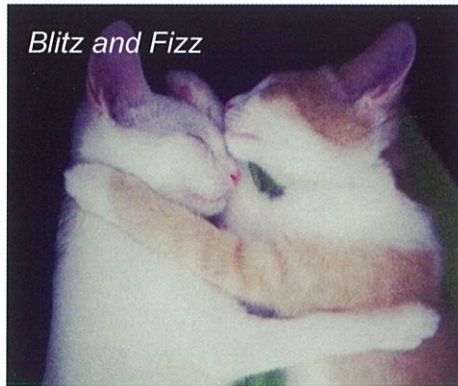
I was surprised that Max is really cuddly. I thought he would be much more of a loner, being such a "cool" cat when we first met him, but all he wants is to talk and cuddle. He sleeps in my bed at night.

Thanks again for taking care of Max in the past and being so helpful to me. It's the first time my life has ever come across to a cat's (always had dogs growing up) and it is wonderful!

And yes, I still call him Max, Max the little Felafel! LOL

Ella

Blitz and Fizz



Hello

On Boxing Day my husband and I adopted Fizz (little champagne and white girl, 10 weeks on adoption, who was rescued from a hoarder's home) and Blitz (pure white male, 12 weeks at adoption, found on a construction site).

I just wanted to take this opportunity not only to thank Cat Protection for your amazing knowledge and support in the adoption process, but also for being the ones who helped make our family complete! These two little furballs have given us endless love and happiness since the moment we got them and life without them is now impossible to imagine!

Coming from different litters and with two seemingly different personalities we are thrilled to find they are inseparable and adore each other's company and playing together. Both are incredibly affectionate and well-behaved, their foster parents before us must have done an amazing job!

Keep up the inspiring work!

Antonia

Hi Nerida

Our new kitten is doing very well. We've named her Toffee, and she is busy running around the house all day (and night), getting used to things.

Favourite things – walking across our computer keyboards when we're working, pulling on every cord and lead she can find, and sleeping on an arrangement of cushions that takes up half the couch ☺

She likes sleeping on our pillows at night, but doesn't really like being picked up yet.

Steph & Tom



Toffee

SCRATCHING POST

Hi Camilla

Here is a photo of Milo (cat) and his "mother", Bella. They adore each other and Milo has settled in very well.

Kind regards

Emma

Hi Teamsters

I have been through my file and approve of my new human.

I've gobbled up biscuits but I'm determined not to eat that sloppy turkey you made me eat. Had some yummy chicken tonight which I read was also a pussy delight.

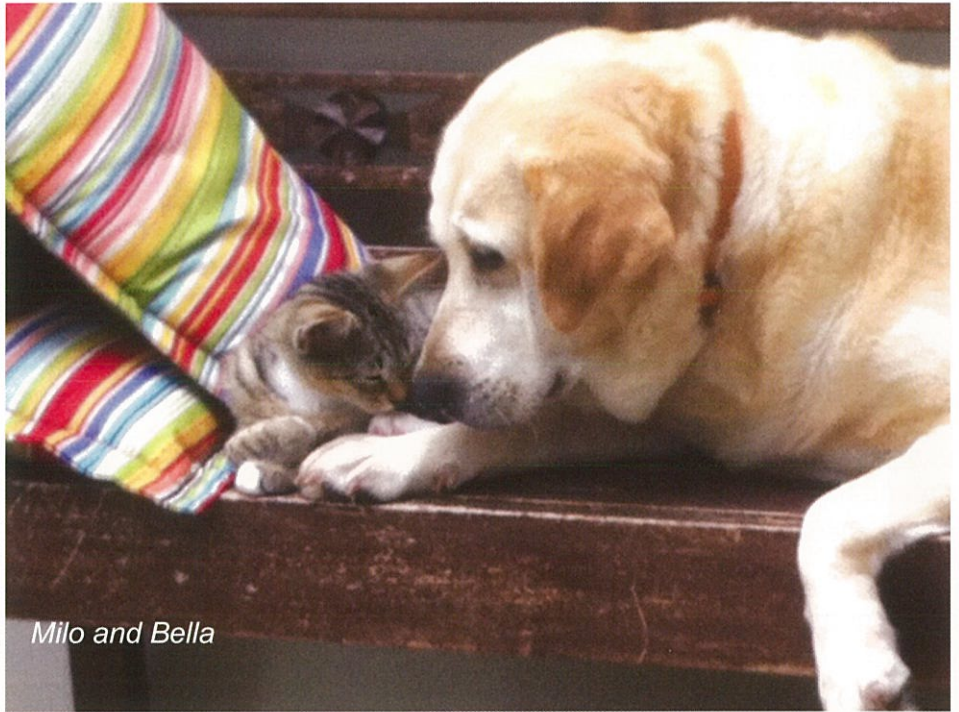
My eye is still sore, but I'm being very cooperative about the cream.

Had a trial stint on the human bed last night but it was hot and we both wriggled all night. I think she snores a bit!

Anyway, thanks for all your support and I'll send through another pic when my eye is gorgeous again.

Big rubs

Muggle (I also answer to Molly which Clare likes better – sooo hard to please!)



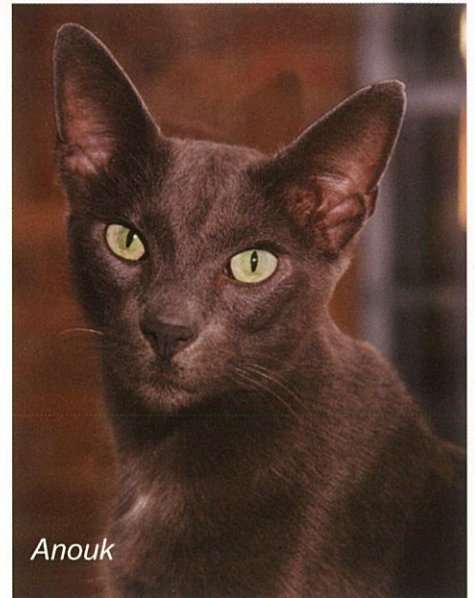
Milo and Bella

Hi Molly

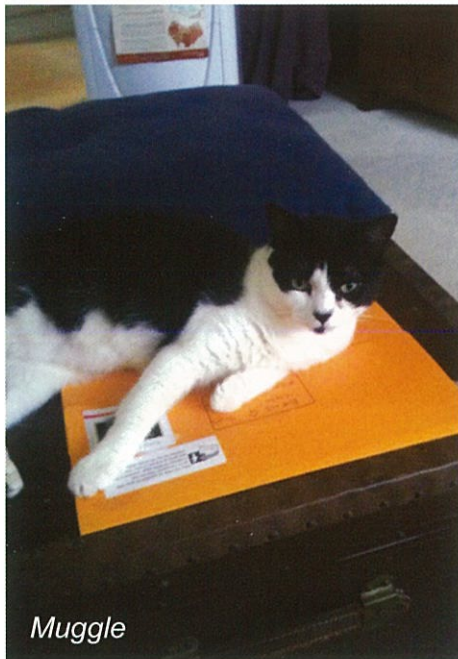
Here are some photos of Anouk (Dylan), he is settling in so well. He's being so spoilt and is much loved. He is also putting on weight and looking so healthy and happy.

Regards

Josh & Anouk



Anouk



Muggle



Snowy

To Chanel, Ellen & all at Cat Protection

It is my 1st Anniversary today (23rd April). I have been living in my home now for one year and I'm very happy. My brother Merlo has been here for 2 ½ years tomorrow (24th). I think he is wonderful.

Mum loves us both very much and said to say thank you again for taking such good care of us before we came here to Maroubra.

xxxSnowy

SCRATCHING POST

Hi

This is Molly our new kitten. She settled in very quickly, found all the beds in the house and used the kitty litter straight away. She's taking a while to settle in with our dogs, Indi and Mia.

Indi just wants to lick her all over and Mia is just so big she's scares poor Molly. She loves going outside and is a great tree climber – although not so good at getting down! She's very affectionate, loves cuddling and follows us all around the house.

She's absolutely gorgeous.

Thanks

Angelique



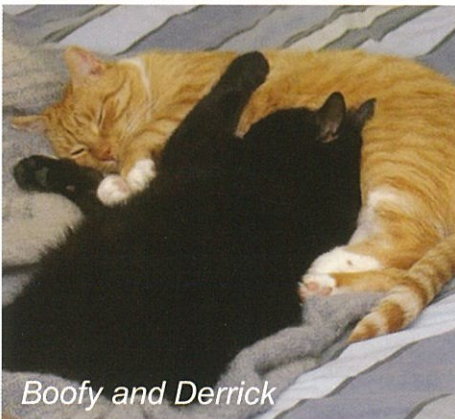
Dear CPS

As promised here are a few photos of Boofy the Magnificent, who we adopted in November 2010. Needless to say, he's settled in very well and is very much a part of our family. He's a very affectionate and lovable chap.

Fortunately he also gets along very well with our resident Derrick, who used to be known as Rowan when he was at CPS a few years ago. In fact, when the two were introduced, Derrick took to him immediately as a playmate, and that's what they've been since.

Thanks again for all your terrific work.

Geoff (and Urara, Derrick & Boofy)



Hello

We adopted the very affectionate tabby boy Timmy and calico girl Tammy in February 2011. We love them more and more each day!

After a hard day at work, our moods get better instantly when we come home greeted by the very excited Timmy and the very vocal Tammy, head butting us and purring away.

Timmy loves jumping on the couch and snuggling up with us when we watch TV. Tammy loves following us around, especially to the kitchen to watch us cook.

Because of Timmy and Tammy, we have a wonderful home, not just a flat.

Thank you Cat Protection Society!
Lots of love to all the staff and kitty cats at CPS

Eric, Peter, Timmy & Tammy xoxo



SCRATCHING POST

Dear Sabrina

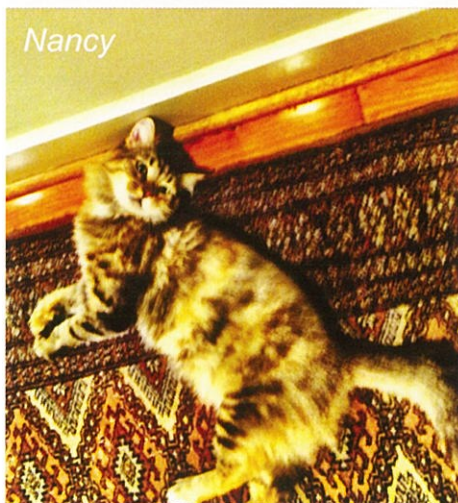
Many thanks for your patience and unhurried care when we turned up to adopt a cat. After our lovely Arnold died, we had to leave our house and garden with all their painful memories. We enjoyed a distracting holiday in Vietnam but the same empty house and garden were there on our return.

After perusing your website with its fabulous photos, I knew you would have the cat for us. Nancy is settling in very nicely. We decided to put her in my bedroom which has fewer cords and tight spaces than other rooms. She stays under the bed most of the day. She started off receiving pats and gentle conversations from this haven.

I must say it has been very odd to be receiving visitors lying on the floor. Everybody was happy to talk to her hands extended to welcome her. On the first night I left the door open and Nancy launched herself out into the rest of the house. She has been exploring the rest of the house at night.

She has a lot of the qualities of our beautiful Jennifer who turned up at our back door and stayed for fifteen loving years. As Nancy is our third rescue cat, we are committed to making her life as joyous as possible.

Because of her physical issues she moves only at low levels. I am looking to create a wonderland of igloos and tunnels which I am hoping she will enjoy. Today we are finding a way to block off under the couch which is too tight a space for her. I am also going to get a name tag made. We had some heart stopping moments when we thought she had escaped. She was under a bed in another room! When both our former cats were run over, their lives were saved by neighbours



calling us to our phone number on their name tags.

Although Nancy will be an indoors cat, she has already found the front door and miaowed to get out. I never underestimate the power of a cat to escape during a human slip up. At the moment we are taking turns to leave the house so she doesn't feel abandoned. I am also leaving the radio on low to keep her company.

My bedroom looks like an extension of her former home with you. She loves her new low scratching post. She is managing her litter tray well. Gradually we will move her and her possessions to the other end of the house.

Kind regards

Pauline

Nancy is a very special cat who needed extensive specialist surgery for a growth in her inner ear and her condition has affected her balance. Thanks to the generosity of Cat Protection supporters we were able to treat beautiful Nancy and find her a family who were able to care for her special needs. Thank you Pauline and family for taking on the extra work and investment required to give Nancy a fulfilling and healthy life – we wish you all much love and happiness together.

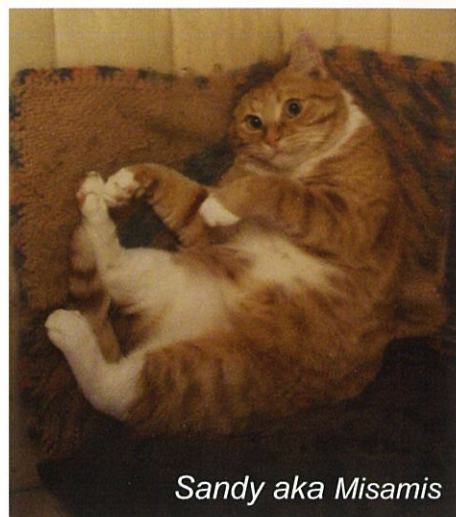
Dear CPS

It has been 16 months since we adopted Sandy (now also known as Misamis).

He is doing really well – enjoying being the centre of attention, fully confident and relaxed and healthy. He says hello to his temporary home, especially to Aristea, whose favourite he was at the time ☺

Thank you for helping us with the adoption and for the work you are doing for all the less fortunate cats!

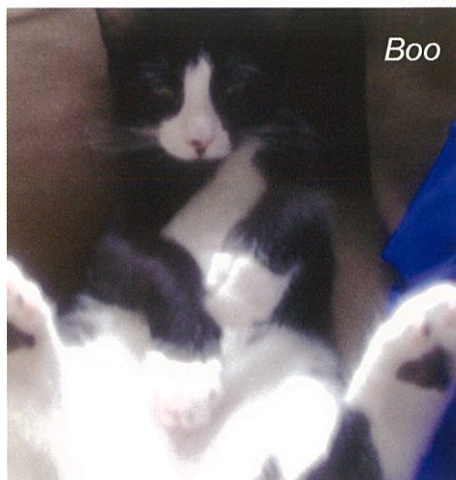
Olga, proud mum of Sandy (aka Misamis) and CPS volunteer



Hi Naomi

Thanks for introducing us to Boo, she is one cool cat.

Louise



SCRATCHING POST

Hi

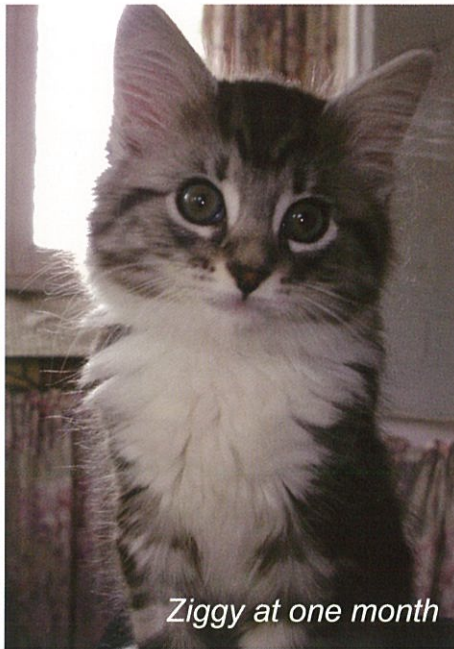
What a wonderful kitten Ziggy has turned out to be. My partner and I picked him up from the Cat Protection Society only days after the death of our previous cat. We were heartbroken at her loss but this tiny grey and white kitten "spoke" to us when we first met him. Ziggy's little sister had just been handed over to a new family so we thought it would be nice to offer him a new home too.

At first, he seemed to miss his family; suckling like crazy on any piece of our body he could attach himself to. Over the next month, however, he settled down and even learnt to sleep on his own in the lounge room. This was a blessing, choosing a fluffy cushion to our comfortable beds, and therefore the opportunity to suckle.

Ziggy loves water and has a variety of bowls placed around the two houses he is fortunate enough to live in. Drinking water, however, often causes him to hiccough although it doesn't last long but is very funny to watch. Travel for him started very early and by the end of the 10 kilometre ride to either property, he is often asleep. We have lots of toys for him to play with at both houses, including practice golf balls, feathered sticks, mice with bells in and/or on them and balls of rolled up chocolate wrapping. Spoilt is not the word for it!

Ziggy loves having his chin scratched (not to mention his tummy, his paws, his head, his nose; you name it) and he loves sitting on laps (and chests when you are lying down). Our house has a large garden, which Ziggy loves to play in, howling until we let him out. (For some reason, he doesn't seem to miss the garden when we are in our apartment in town.)

There he finds salamanders and other tasty insects, which he of



Ziggy at one month



Ziggy at five months

course brings inside to demonstrate his prowess. He also looks longingly at the native bird life that gathers round a feeder. However, they have soon worked out where he hides and, when feeding, peer over the edge to make sure he's not there.

On our first visits to the local vet, she was amazed at how calm, not to mention how beautiful, Ziggy is. Giving him his two flu injections was a breeze as he just lay there while I tickled his chin. The vet also praised the Cat Protection Society, saying how thorough they were with the paperwork they supplied with the as-yet-unnamed grey and white kitten.

Ziggy, we couldn't ask for a more gorgeous cat.

Cheers

Denise & Anne



Max

Hi Kristina

On 16 May 2009, Max was first diagnosed with Lymphoma and started his chemo; he was in remission until October last year when it re-appeared in his intestines. This was found after his second lot of major surgery and a new chemo was decided on and has been a full success.

My little man is in full remission and life is looking pretty good for Max who we got from Cat Protection in 1995 at Parklea along with his mate (who unfortunately succumbed to the same disease in July 2006 and only lived three months after being diagnosed). He has everything against him, his age for one, and the fact that he is a diabetic and requires insulin twice daily.

My husband and I have devoted the past three years to Max and will continue to do so. The vets here are amazed at how determined he is; some other cats who we used to see with similar sicknesses have all passed over. Max is strong and is going to beat this, he tells me every day.

Many of our so-called friends think we are mad and have said he would be better put down and you can get another cat (!!!) and what about the money (!!!) I say money cannot buy the love this ginger boy has brought into our lives from the first day we saw that paw through the cage begging us to bring him home.

He is just divine.

Susie

IN MEMORIAM

Vale Jo Tomkin

This donation is in memory of my friend Jo Tomkin who passed away last week (March). Jo was an Honorary Life Member of Cat Protection and also one of the original ladies who started the Op Shop under Sybil Cousins's guidance.

Elizabeth

The Cat Protection Society of NSW joins Elizabeth in mourning the death of Jo Tomkin. Jo was a vital contributor to the history and success of Cat Protection. Her spirit lives on in all the little cats we help – they are testament to her good works. May she rest in peace.



Sailor (aka Gloria)

I am sad to advise that Sailor died this afternoon.

She has been off food for several days. The vet could find no problem other than an erratic heartbeat.

We had a happy few weeks together.

RIP

Peter



Tosca

Little Tosca came into our lives as a 6 week old kitten and we watched him grow up into the beautiful boy he was. Never have I met a cat with so much personality and so much attitude. He was the most sassy cat ever, and always made sure he got his way.

He was unfortunately taken away from us at the age of three. Although he has gone now, he will always be in our hearts and minds. We love and miss you little guy.

Dimi, Nicole, Andrew & Nick



Otis

In memory of our gorgeous blue boy Otis who was full of fun and love for all his far too short life.

Remembered by Robin and Family

CAT PROTECTION OPENING HOURS

Office and Adoptions: 103 Enmore Road, Newtown

Office: 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday Tel: 9519 7201

Adoptions: 11am to 2.30pm, Sunday to Friday; 10am to 3.30pm Saturday also Thursday evenings 4.30pm to 6.30pm; Friday afternoons 3.30pm to 5pm Tel: 9557 4818

Op Shop: 85 Enmore Road, Newtown Tel: 9516 2072
The Op Shop is generally open between 10am and 4pm, 7 days a week. If closed, donations can be left at Cat Protection at 103 Enmore Road

Join us in giving more cats loving homes

**As the nutritional partner for the
Cat Protection Society of NSW,
Hill's Pet Nutrition has provided
Hill's™ Science Diet™ to cats
awaiting adoption for over 5 years.**

By feeding Hill's™ Science Diet™, the Cat Protection Society of NSW ensures that cats awaiting adoption have the special nutrition they need to be healthy, happy and ready to start their new life with you.

If you're ready to bring a feline friend into your life, why not consider adopting from the Cat Protection Society? For more details simply visit www.catprotection.org.au



**For more information about
Hill's™ Science Diet™ visit
www.hillspet.com.au**



cat protection society

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