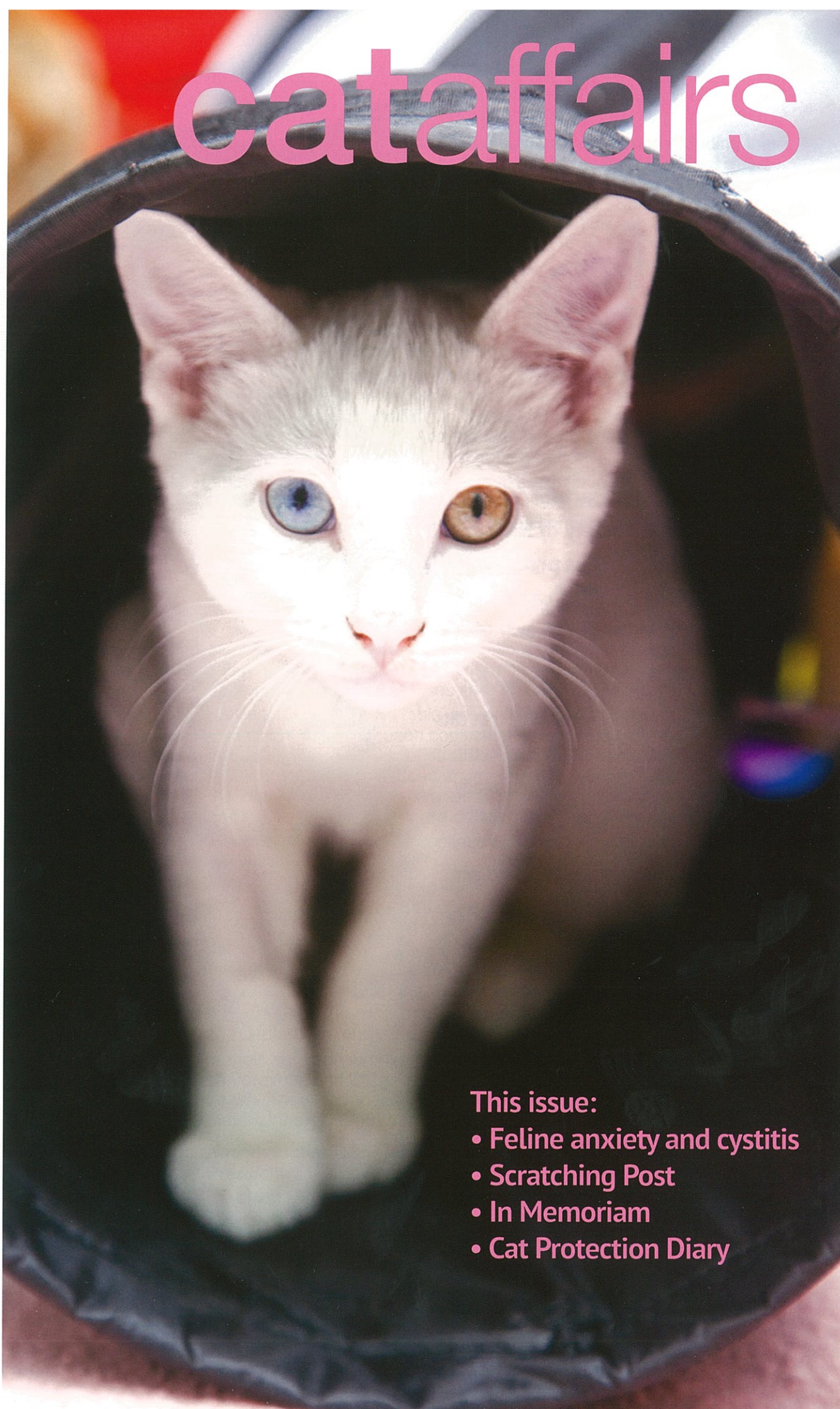


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cat protection society
OF NSW INC.



This issue:

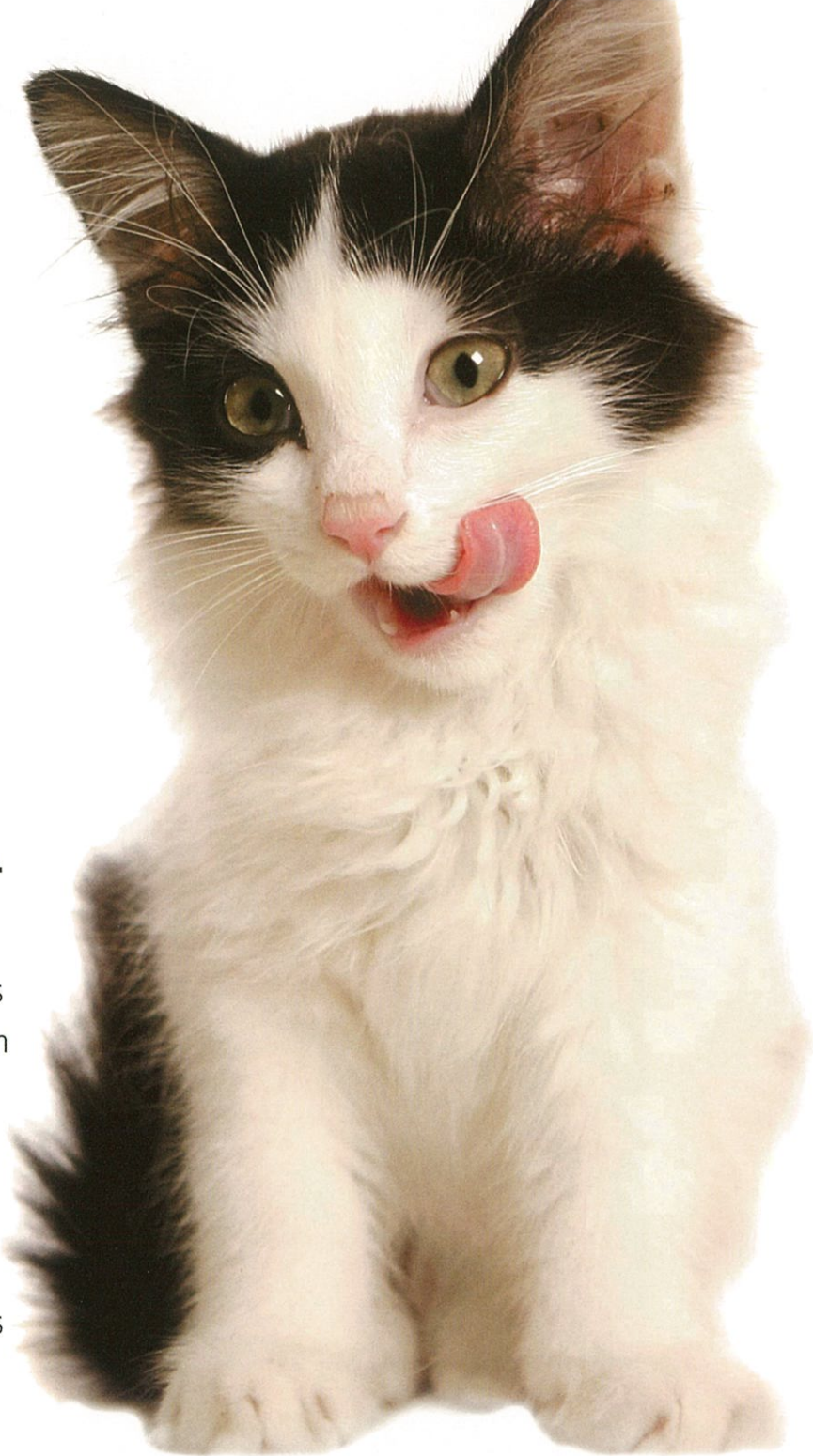
- Feline anxiety and cystitis
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- Cat Protection Diary

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cat protection society

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Care for cats!

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President's Report

There are many theories about the human-animal bond including that our companion animals act as 'sentinels' for us; we have them close to us so that they can alert us to risks. This can be obvious when a dog barks at the door on the arrival of a stranger. Some cats and dogs exhibit changed behaviours before a storm. More subtly, cats can be very particular about the friends we choose!

In late 2007 – well before economists called it – Cat Protection became increasingly concerned about the economy. We saw what would come to be called the Global Financial Crisis manifest in a record number of surrendered cats, cats abandoned due to mortgage foreclosure and a reduction in adoptions. Sentinel cats at work.

Everything has changed since then – people feel less financially secure; people on retirement incomes have experienced reduced wealth; housing affordability in Sydney is, well, simply not affordable. More people are renting. And the cats are still suffering for this, and they are warning us that it is not getting better.

The lack of pet-friendly accommodation continues to hurt companion animals and the people who love them. Adoptions are very low. Surrenders for accommodation reasons continue to be high. It is a housing crisis for cats.

We've been working hard on this issue and some of our success stories won't be seen in our adoption numbers, but they are there in the stories of cats and their people who've been able to stay together. Just a few weeks ago, we were delighted when the information on our website on preparing a pet resume and landlord agreement helped a woman keep her two beloved felines. There are many similar stories; they don't appear in our statistics but they are just as meaningful.

As well as the practical tools we've developed and the guidance we can give to clients, we've been consistent in our messages to Government, through both the review of strata titles legislation and the Companion Animals Taskforce: we need an improved regulatory framework for pet-friendly accommodation. We are confident that our voice is being heard, and our fingers and paws are crossed for positive changes.

Meanwhile, the economy continues to present a challenge to us and our work.

An important message we'd like to make clear is that cats enhance our lives. Yes, we do need to budget for the cost of looking after a cat (but in truth, they are reasonably affordable pets) and we do need to have plans in place if something happens where we can't look after our cat – but the benefits are so enormous.

To put it in economic terms, the 'return on investment' of having a cat is huge: better physical and mental health, warmth, non-judgmental companionship, purpose, and of course, lots of joy and laughter.

In their 'sentinel purpose' cats don't just warn us about bad things, they can prevent 'bad things' such as loneliness and isolation, and poorer health. They remind us that we need to do better than simply value material things. What amazing creatures.

Rhonda House
President



Cover photograph of CPS kitten by Joslin Hartley

Feline anxiety and cystitis/FLUTD

By Dr Kim Kendall, BVSc, MACVSc

Cats have been confusing clinicians with their bladder issues since at least the 1860s.

The mere fact that no one can agree on a title for the feline syndrome of increased frequency of urination (often away from the normal place) with visible or concealed blood, that resolves within a few days, and on which no medications seem to have an influence, would indicate multi-modal causation.

Cats given a stable, enriched environment have almost no episodes of FLUTD/FIC (Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (or Disorder)/Feline Interstitial Cystitis), even if they have previously had urethral blockages and repeated events of cystitis in other environments (home/client-based).

Behavioural change is usually the first clue that all is not well with your feline friend. Limping, not eating, fussier, quieter, becoming clingier or more distant, not using the litter tray ... all these are behavioural signs, and your cat uses them to indicate what or where the problem is.

One of the most noticeable changes is when a cat 'internalises' their fears and ends up with cystitis. I call it Kitty Migraine.

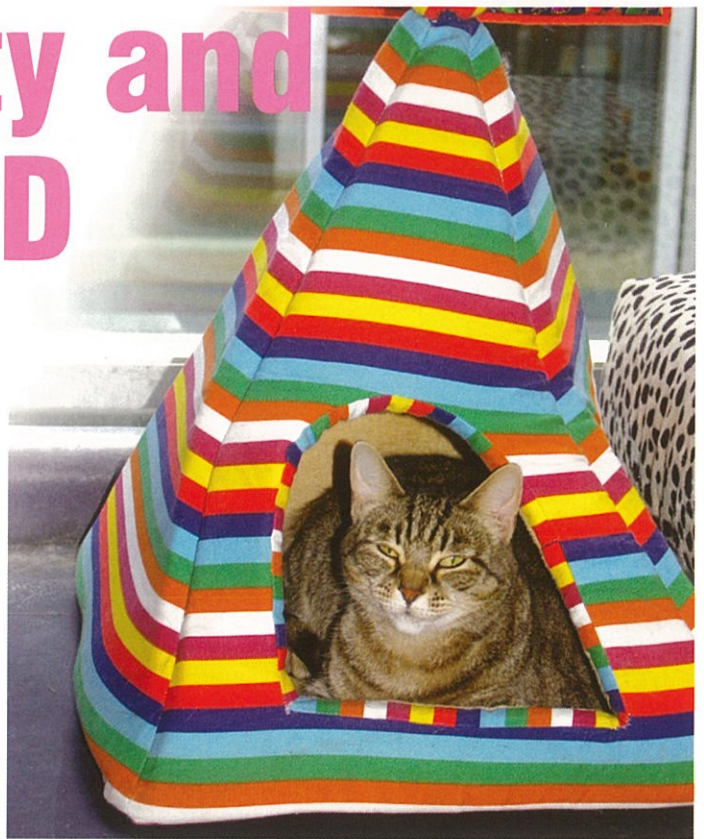
What makes a cat a cat

We have changed cats' environments substantially over the past thousands of years since they domesticated us, and they have adapted by changing a great deal of their instinctive behaviour. Wild cats avoid humans, totally, and the true wild cats (*Felis sylvestris sylvestris*) cannot be tamed just by raising them in a human household.

Our moggies have self-selected over the generations to tolerate, and now even seek out, human company. However, when something goes wrong for a cat, their 'default emotion' is fear. And if you fear something that *might* happen (ie a future event), that is the definition of anxiety.

Cats are smart enough to need anti-depressants (I prefer to call it anti-anxiety medication) so it is not surprising to find that in this relatively feline-unfriendly world in which cats find themselves (no mice, no desert sand, too many cats and way too much noise) many cats get stressed and anxious, and their behaviour changes.

Most cats will hide if they feel vulnerable: they do not 'ask for help' or make extra noise that may alert a predator to their vulnerability (remembering that cats lie between prey and predator strata, and their stress response is the archetypal 'fight or flight').



A cosy place to hide

Sometimes illness or stress will be clear: there is an obvious swelling or painful area, or there is a change in urine, faeces or vomiting. However, cats most often indicate a problem by behaving differently from usual.

Pee-mail

Felines are a very conservative species – they conserve water well (make very strong urine); they conserve energy (that is why they sleep – they are not just being bone idle – and that is why it is so hard to get them to lose weight); and they use their elimination products for a second purpose – communication. Many of you have experienced the fact that they use urine (and sometimes faeces) for messaging. You could even call it pee-mail.

Cats use pheromones and fatty acids in their urine to give other cats information, mainly about their time of arrival or departure, and sexual status. Cat urine actually *does smell worse* the longer it is outside of the cat – the amino acids breakdown at a constant rate to make the urine smellier (and the fatty acids make it very sticky). This then acts as a time-marker. The message is usually something like: "I was here at 4pm today and I don't want to meet another cat here tomorrow". This is very effective where there are few cats in a large area like a desert. However, in the crowded urban environment, it may prevent another cat from peeing at their appointed time and location.

Nearly all cat communication – auditory, pheromonal and all forms of marking (outside of mate-finding) – are designed as distance-increasing messages. These are not aggressive 'stay away because I hate you', messages (because urine sprayed is not

aversive, it is investigated by other cats), they are just 'don't be here when I am, there are no mice anyway' messages.

Evidence of stress

Cats are creatures of habit, and to disrupt their routine is very stressful – so a cat's bladder may go into spasm, sometimes badly enough to rupture small blood vessels and bleed into the urine making it red.

For the cat, this is a bit like the 'stress headaches' we humans suffer when we get fraught and overwrought. The stress can also prevent the bladder from filling, so the cat is going to urinate more frequently and in different places, desperately looking for somewhere that they find comfortable to relieve themselves. After all, to a cat's mind, urine itself cannot hurt, so it must be the place they are peeing that is causing the hurt. Hence they look for another place to pee.

This is often the start of the difficult syndrome of a cat 'peeing everywhere around the house'. If we pity the cat rather than punish them, we can help resolve their problem and pain quickly and with less mess for the owner. Try to remember – peeing *solves* a cat's problem: there is no moral issue or comment. Peeing *is* the cat's coping mechanism. To solve the owner's problem, however, we are going to have to understand the problem from the cat's point of view and make some changes to the environment.

The underlying triggers for any of the behaviours that indicate coping mechanisms (such as hiding, aggression or 'peeing everywhere') are as varied as the personalities of the cats and the environments their owners put them in. However, nearly all are based in some anxiety.

If your cat is indicating stress by frequently using coping mechanisms, the two things to remember are: it is unlikely that the cat will solve the problem alone, so the problem will get worse; and the earlier the intervention, the more likely the treatment will resolve the problem. Once the activity is a habit, it will take much longer and need much more medication and behavioural intervention to resolve. As soon as possible, visit the vet to rule out medical conditions and to discuss your cat's situation.

Causes of stress

Cats have a wide range of responses both between and within individuals. Variations can be genetic, environmental and contextual (and on top of that, cats will have a wide range of responses to infectious agents ... and those infectious agents likewise will have variations). Some cats go into overload if one piece of furniture is moved; others are unfazed by the advent of babies, dogs, teenagers or even moving house.

The two biggest threats to the emotional security of cats who demonstrate FIC seem to be either a change of routine – from just moving a chair, to a favourite person moving away, to moving house – or Another Cat. The one thing a cat cannot ignore is



Stressed? Who me?

another cat – because you only share your mouse with your offspring.

So if your cat starts peeing blood, find out whether a routine has changed – any routine – or whether a new cat is staring in the window, or whether a relationship with a familiar cat in the household has changed. Cats in any household have a very fluid status with other cats; it is time and space dependent.

There is some work that shows that if there are ample resources (feeding stations, resting places, including high perches, water bowls and hiding places) then nearly all cats can reach a social compromise that does not involve peeing in 'important' places but it can take up to a year for an adult to integrate. Very few cats want to live with more than one or two other cats, especially if their choices are restricted.

Remember a lot of cat communication is done by smell, and displaced aggression – one cat being aggravated by a cat outside, and turning on their housemate – is very real. In fact, it is so common that for clients who have two cats, I ask them to bring both cats to the clinic even if only one needs to see me. This is to prevent the hissing (displaced aggression) that follows if only one cat attends (and then goes home smelling unfamiliar to the other cat).



Cats like places to perch

Feline anxiety and cystitis/FLUTD cont.

Solving the issue

Consult your vet to discuss both the medical and behavioural issues that might be at play. It is rarely going to be a simple diagnosis though often the solution can be simple – it might be as easy as an alternative litter tray (or litter type) and pain relief.

My only comment on the physiology / neurology of the FIC process comes from Professor Buffington's work: "If the problem is severe, the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis and the pontine locus coeruleus-norepinephrine (LC-NE) systems are activated".

As the locus coeruleus is closely involved in sleep, my personal theory is that cats with FIC are not getting enough deep REM sleep. Hyper-vigilance in their cat is one of the factors owners have observed prior to their cat's episode of cystitis.

(Human) doctors struggling with people with Fibromyalgia and other chronic pain conditions have finally accepted a mental model:

"This abnormality across conditions suggests that these individuals have a fundamental problem with pain or sensory processing rather than an abnormality confined to a specific region of the body where pain is perceived to originate. Similar types of therapies are efficacious for all of these conditions, including both pharmacological (eg tricyclic compounds such as amitriptyline) and non-pharmacological treatments (eg exercise or cognitive behavioural therapy). Conversely, individuals with these conditions typically do not respond to therapies that are effective when pain is due to damage or inflammation of peripheral tissues (eg NSAIDs, opioids, injections, or surgical procedures)."

Perhaps then vets can skip ahead and apply this model for cats with FIC. This really is where the mind matters to the medicine, so here are a few key points to consider.

The treatment reality for feline cystitis is that something might work and doing nothing might also work, but I am always interested in preventing the next bout, especially for the blocked boys. Mindful of the pain involved, I use an NSAID, a benzodiazepine, a urinary acidifier and sometimes an opiate as an acute treatment.

Amyltryptalline / nortryptalline / clomipramine take two weeks to work, so I resort to those only if the next episode comes within six months. There is an exciting new drug (developed for vomiting dogs!) which seems to be very useful for feline bladder spasm (maropitant) but it is very much in the experimental stages of use.

Sometimes I change the food but current research does not support wet food as a preventative. Always I change the environment: that is where the art of vet

science meets the investigative talents of forensic science and both use medical science to solve cats' problems.

So if your cat is showing signs of anxiety, act fast to restore your kitty to emotional equilibrium – take careful note of any recent changes in your cat's world and talk to your vet as soon as possible.

Dr Kim Kendall is an expert in feline medicine and animal behaviour, with her own clinic Dr Kim Kendall Cat Vet at Chatswood. Her most recent article for Cat Affairs was on Senior Cats.

Dr Kendall is fascinated by the interplay between environment and disease, and between the mind and the medicine. She says, "While cats have not changed much, we have changed almost everything around them. Cats are very adaptable, and very flexible (physically at least!) but sometimes their coping mechanisms fail." For more information visit www.catclinic.com.au or phone 1800 CAT VET.



Conserving energy

References:

'External and internal influences on disease risk in cats' C. A. Tony Buffington JAVMA, Vol 220, No. 7, April 1, 2002 p 994

'Understanding Fibromyalgia: Lessons from the Broader Pain Research Community', David A Williams et al The Journal of Pain, Vol 10, No 8 (August), 2009: pp 777-791

RC IVIS Cat Nutrition <http://www.ivis.org/advances/rcfeline/chap13part5/chapter.asp?LA=1>

Dry food contains only 7-8% water, requiring the animal to consume more water to meet their daily needs. It has been shown that dry food increases fecal water loss but decreases urinary loss. However, it is important to mention that, while intake is strongly modified, the general water balance is not modified by the moisture content of the food. Urinary calculi are more strongly linked to the urinary mineral composition and urinary pH than to the moisture content of the diet. The only risky situation occurs when there is a transition from canned to dry diet. Caloric density does not affect water intake. Increasing the dietary protein level results in increased water intake (due to the increased diuresis required to eliminate urea). Carbohydrates decrease water intake, due the higher output of metabolic water from carbohydrate metabolism. Sodium chloride increases water intake. Hypernatremia (> 160 mEq/L) triggers thirst and water consumption in cats.

SCRATCHING POST

Hi all

As tomorrow is the one year anniversary of (the cat formerly known as) Marmalade coming to live with me, I thought you would like an update on how this lovely little lady is going.

Cirridwen (her new name) has really come out of her shell and is very comfortable at home – over time she has become an affectionate (but still bite-y) love who enjoys following me around like a shadow. Mornings are the best for both of us – the moment my alarm goes off little Cirrie jumps up onto the bed to say 'good morning' and 'feed me'.

She spends most of her day sleeping in a variety of places including on the bed and in a box she has appropriated near the TV. She has changed quite a bit and has really found herself a forever home here. She still has the same amount of energy (enough to power a large city) but she works that off with a good game of chase the ball or leg tag with her human. I've long since gotten used to the scratch marks on my arms and the vampire-like bite marks on my leg – they're part of the joy of having this little lady live here!

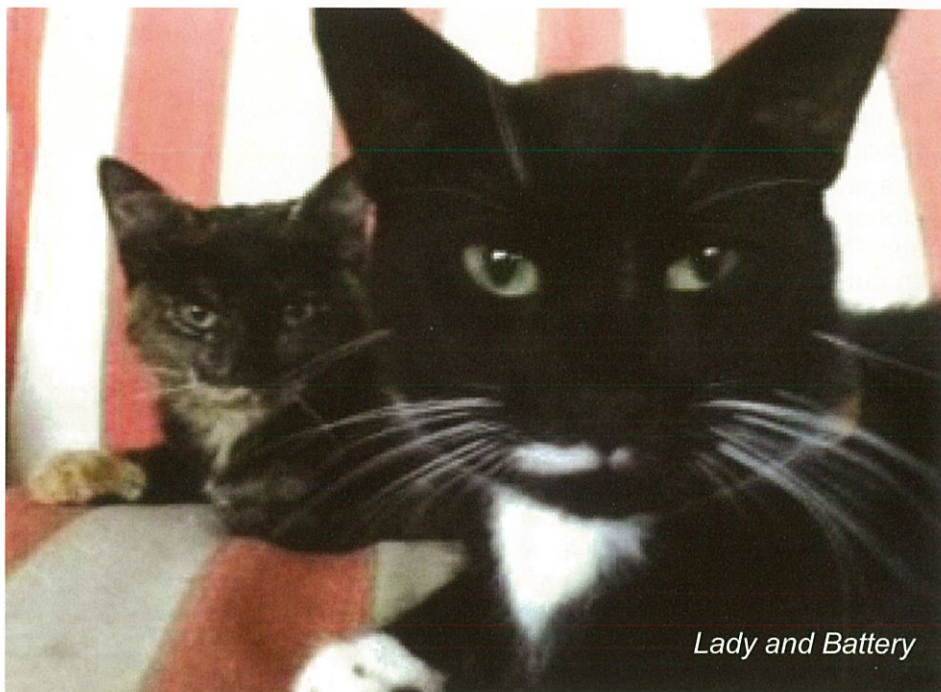
So thanks CPS for all the hard work, your no-kill policy and your patience with this little lady as we are a purrfect match.

Kind regards to you all

Craig



Cirridwen



Lady and Battery

Hi Emilie

I trust this finds you and your furry friends well!

We are both good and totally in love with Sunny. He has such a happy disposition and always wants a cuddle!

It isn't just enough to be in the same space as you, he has to be touching you ☺

He is eating everything in sight and is toileting well. We've only had one little accident and that was on the first day we got him home but after that all has been great.

He's had his first visit to the vet and they were very impressed with his file and his condition.

His fur is growing back (can't wait to see him when his fur fills out LOL) and his sore paw is healing well, although he does open it up every now and again when he's playing with his toys!

We spoil him rotten and he is certainly ruling the roost here at our home!

Sunny is just gorgeous and has brought so much happiness into our little home.

Kind regards

Jo

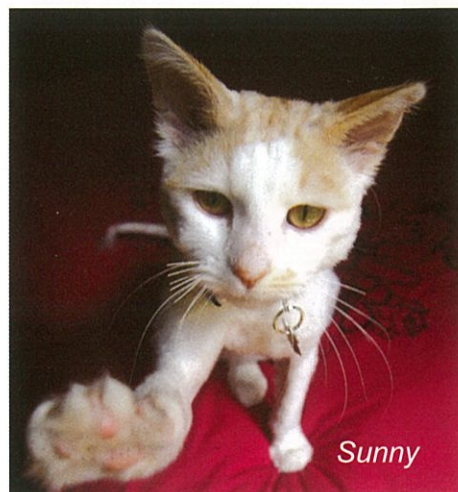
Hi Ellen

Lady is the best cat in the world today.

We got Lady from Cat Protection in September 2011 when she was a tiny kitten. She was playful and confident and took on all the bigger cats in the centre. She has since mellowed into a wonderful, playful purr machine.

Her favourite activities include running around in the garden, chasing butterflies, lazing around in the shade and hanging out with her buddy Battery, the older house cat.

John



Sunny

SCRATCHING POST

Hi Kristina

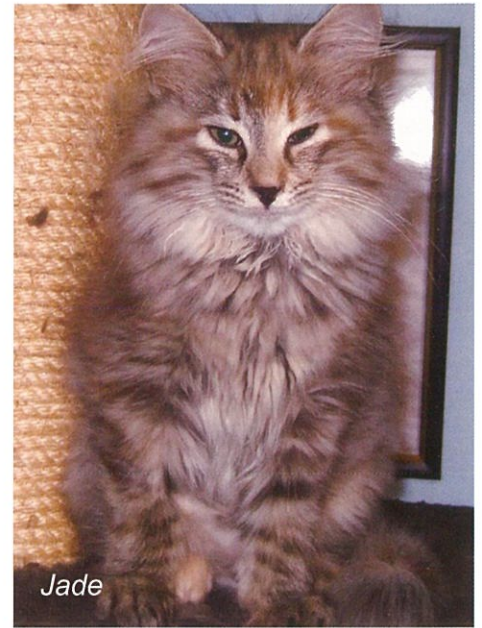
Here are our photos of Jazz and Jade, the latest additions to the feline family of Wind Song Cottage. The girls were born 22 October 2012, Norwegian Forest Cats. They have settled in well with our other three cats, Tilly the Maine Coon and Snugglepoot and Cuddlepoot, the Devon Rexes.

They have already learned how to play the piano by watching the other cats run up and down the keyboard. They love the cat-house, a colourbond and wire enclosure connected to the main house via a tunnel. We furnished it with a large cat tower, cat beds, kitty litter, water, cat mint, cat nip and cat grass in pots for them to enjoy.

In the daytime they watch the parrots eat at the bird feeder, next to the enclosure and at night time, they watch the possums eat the scraps of fruit we leave for them. As 'indoor cats' they have the



advantages of protection from dogs and foxes, safe from motor vehicles on the road, don't come into contact with people who don't like cats and the wildlife is protected. Indoor cats also have less health problems by not coming into contact with cats who



might have diseases, so indoor cats statistically live longer than outdoor cats.

Jazz and Jade know they have come to a good home.

Regards

Mark & Maria

Hi Bronwyn

Little Cubby (formerly Nelly) is doing great. She's *eating* everything, which I'm pleased about because I remember you telling me she was being very picky. Sometimes she even tries to eat my food!

I started introducing her to my other cat about 2 weeks ago and at first there was a lot of hissing from the old one, but now they're really starting to get along. They're always playing with each other and sleep in the same room, no problem. I'm very relieved.

She is so cute! Everyone is obsessed with her!

I'm really impressed with the level of care you guys have at Cat Protection.

Warm regards

Raquel



SCRATCHING POST

Hello Kristina, Chanel and all at Cat Protection

Some news about Serenity (named Amielle while at Cat Protection) whom I adopted when she was one-year old in October 2012.

She's an absolute gem, a gorgeous tortie-tabby & white kitty with the prettiest face and a very sweet nature, a trusting gentle and loving little soul.

She has settled in beautifully and has found a very willing and very active playmate and 'big sister' in beautiful little Sunshine, my other cat who is about four and a half years of age. Serenity and Sunshine just love playing together especially chasings which they are into big time!

They hang out together in their cat park and also in the kitchen where they sit on the sink ledge or on the windowsill, basking in the sun and keeping watch on the world outside.

Serenity has a very sweet, soft little meow, which has a little bit of a trill to it, and she's a real smoochie too. And to hear her purring is wonderful – Serenity – serene in name and in nature.

Sunshine just loves washing Serenity and Serenity has been



Serenity and Sunshine

washing Sunshine in return. It's so relaxing to watch them groom one another.

The first two weeks or so were really hard for Sunshine when she certainly did not welcome her 'little sister' (who was subjected to much hissing, even from the other side of a closed door) but I knew that with patience and taking things gradually this would change. Sunshine now loves Serenity and Serenity loves Sunshine in return.

Thank you to Hayley and Romy for your assistance. I feel very blessed that Serenity has found her forever loving home with Sunshine and me.

Wendy



Pepper and Roger

Hi Shareeka

Our kittens are doing really well. They've settled in very quickly and are really enjoying each other's company. They get plenty of exercise in the apartment just running around playing chasing, mock attacks, hide and seek, and grooming games.

We've called the dark tortie Pepper, and the white and ginger girl, Roger.

They're proving to be amazingly different in personality, but get along incredibly well.

Pepper is a clumsy cat growing very quickly, loves to eat, watch things go by, and has very affectionate moments. She's a lovely polite cat, rarely gets into any trouble, and always loves to sit by and watch and keep us company.

Roger is like a puppy in a cat's body, loves to play constantly, purrs like a machine, has an angelic voice, and plays fetch. She's incredibly affectionate, always charging into action, and cuddles up across us both, making sure she's right in the middle. She's incredibly agile!

Hope all is going well and thanks so much for your help connecting these adorable cats to us. We can't imagine home without them anymore. It seems so strange that only a short while ago, we were hesitant about cats, and now it's the most natural thing in the world to have cats – especially these two!

We're training them to use the human toilet! They're doing pretty well!

Jen



Serenity relaxing in her basket

SCRATCHING POST

Dear CPS

Here is a photo of our beloved Tig stretched out on one of his favourite blankets. He is going to be two next week. He is a very good boy who loves affection and meeting new people.

Recently he had a vet check up and he was described as being bigger than a lot of dogs! He sure does love food. I have also attached a group photo of Tig with his two sisters, also CPS cats. Bunny, the black and white tuxedo girl, has come out of her shell so much and is a really funny girl. She loves getting brushed and can be a bit of a green-eyed monster if we pat the other kitties! The little dark tortie, Shaggy, is about 10 months old now. Tig and Bunny accepted her straight away.

Shaggy is a noisy baby who likes a chat and is always strutting around with her tail straight up in the air.

Thank you so much for the great work you do caring for these beautiful cats.

Rachel



Hi Bronwyn

Mylo has settled in wonderfully and within a week or two of arrival was far more 'dynamo' than 'gently goes'. He has the appetite of a small army and every day grows to be a little less cute and a little more handsome.

You may recall we were concerned whether he would get along with our other, older cat Sebastian, but after an initial exchange of a few warning hisses and swipes to sort out the ranks, they're now the best of friends. Mylo adores him and they mooch around the house and play together constantly. While he's not overly affectionate with us, he does like to be close and is very affectionate with Sebastian.

Cheers

Rebecca



SCRATCHING POST

Dear Sabrina

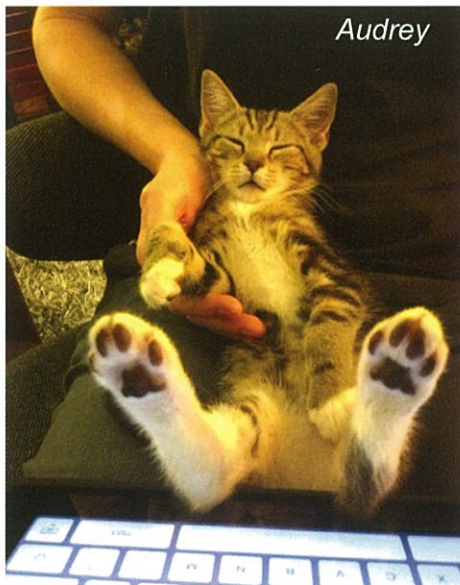
We adopted Audrey a little over three months ago. She is such a gorgeous little kitten and we love her to bits.

Audrey settled in to her new home quickly and is very happy and healthy. Some of her favourite activities include having cuddles, playing chasings, hiding in paper bags, sitting on top of our laptops (while we are typing), playing angry birds on the iPad and getting her paws wet in the shower.

We can't imagine life without her. Thanks for all of the fantastic work that is performed by your organisation and volunteers.

Kind regards

Collette & Carly



Hi

Here are some photos of Clipper and George - two Cat Protection Society boys who are starting to get on very well.

We now have them pretty much sleeping and feeding together.

They do tend to play-fight quite a bit and we presume this is pretty normal behaviour – just wish they wouldn't do it at 4am in the morning!

Cheers

Angela

Dear CPS

We adopted Charlie from you around two years ago. He spent the start of our visit under the shelters before being gently pulled out. After that he charmed us with head-butts and requests for belly rubs! Since then he has made our house a forever-home.

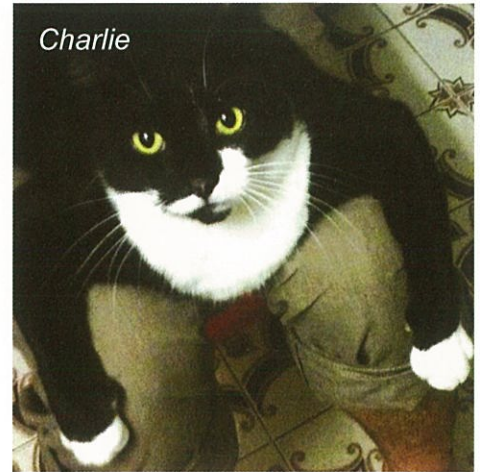
Charlie's favourite pastimes including snuggles, running up and down the stairs, sitting on strange things, sleeping on our beds, dinner time and head-butts.

We give him time outside on the weekend so we can supervise, though he doesn't stray far from the yard. Charlie also loves the game 'run outside the door between your feet' though he is a bit slow and usually only makes it to the patio before flopping over for belly rubs.

Here is a photo of Charlie hanging out in the kitchen while we make Mexican food. Charlie is a lovely gentle cat and we are so glad to have him.

Thanks Cat Protection and keep up the good work!

Marla, Kristian & Frankie



Hi there

I received *Cat Affairs* today and I felt I had to send you some photos of my little girl Rumi. She is almost one now and I can't express how grateful I am that I was able to adopt her. She has the most lovely personality and is just a joy to have around.

Thank you Cat Society. We are a very happy little family.

Aimee x

SCRATCHING POST

Fortune and Cookie



Hi Naomi

We thought you'd like to see some recent photos of Fortune and Cookie. We ended up keeping their names as they are so fitting for them both.

Although they are both big smooches (when it suits them!) they are both very different personalities. Fortune is a very confident little boy, always up to mischief and likes to be heard. Cookie, on the other hand, is a shy wee girl, fascinated with paper bags and loves chasing balls even if they are on TV – she particularly enjoyed the cricket and tennis over the summer!

Like any brother and sister they can sometimes annoy one another, however, on the whole they like to play and snuggle up together. They both love to sit together at the window in the front room and watch the world go by. The neighbours, and even just passers-by, are always commenting on our gorgeous pair – they are quite the celebrities in the street!

We absolutely love having them. They bring us so much pleasure and laughter.

Kind regards

Iain, Ros, Fortune & Cookie

Hi CPS

About a year ago I adopted Evelyn from you.

When I first got her she was so shy and hid behind the lounge for a week. Now she is the friendliest cat who will go to great lengths to curl up and fall asleep in your lap.

She has a new brother now named Benson. He is a lot older than her and Evey just loves him. She follows him around and they often curl up and sleep together on the lounge in the sun. Benson is a big grey cat and Evey is a fluffy, tiny little thing.

Thank you so much. I didn't expect to adopt a cat that day I walked in, but it was the best decision I've made.

Lorretta

Evelyn and Benson



Hello!!

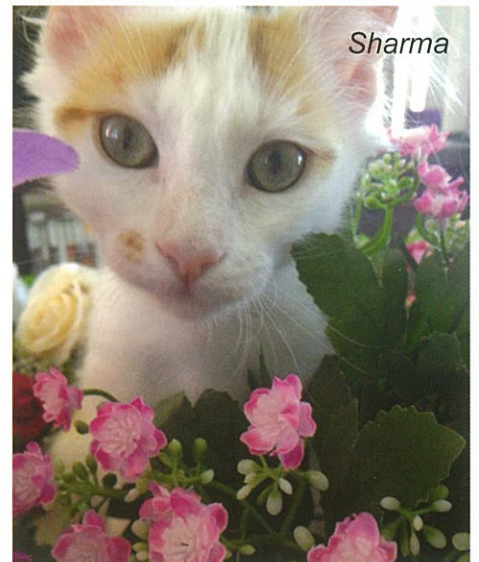
Here're some photos for you. His name is Sharma – Indian for comfort, joy and protection ☺

He is very settled in and has developed a very loving bond with my other cat.

Kind regards

Holly x

Sharma



SCRATCHING POST

Dear CPS

When Lady came to us as an indoor companion for our indoor deaf cat, Blanche, we had to rename her (as CPS had named her Blanche). Lady settled in very quickly and lived up to her reputation as a 'chatterbox'. She is still the most vocal of our 'kids'. Blanche, at about 6 weeks, was rescued from a dumpster in Surry Hills by one of our boys; Paella, our other long-haired 'kid' also came from CPS in Newtown and Siouxi, our tiny tabby, was rescued as a kitten by me from behind the Hornsby RSL over 15 years ago. Pi & Siouxi are allowed to roam the whole backyard during the day. However, our two white girls are restricted to our outdoor cat-house during non-sunny weather (and the rest of indoors of course).

We are so thankful to Chia for the photos of Lady's kittens and to Chanel for assisting in the search. So here is a selection of snaps of the mother of those 5 kittens.

Regards

Gina & Ken



Hello Cat Protection Society

It's me Sao! I thought I'd send you a couple of photos now that I am feeling fit and fabulous. Here I am in my new home in Illawong.

My favourite spot is the lounge but lately I have discovered some very comfy spots upstairs and I have even been allowed to go on short excursions in the front garden. I'm not allowed to stay long but that's okay.

I like to stay close to my new person and I am growing fond of her people too. At first I was terrified so I just kept to myself in a quiet bed just for me but now I am all over the place! I have toys too. It's so cool!

My new family thinks I'm smart. No surprises there as I have a good command of their language - "Come Sao" "Inside Sao" "Bedtime Sao" "Up Sao" "Not in there Sao" "I pat you Sao" "Hello handsome boy" and my personal favourite "Is Sao hungry?" I am obedient and although I hate to be picked up, I am affectionate and show my new family that I appreciate and love them to bits!

I want to thank you for looking after me at the Cat Protection Society. I was so sad back then and not feeling well. My eye has had a lot of care and treatment since I left you and finally it is healing. I am feeling great! You are all so special and kind and I will remember you.

With smooches Sao :-)

(PS everyone thinks my name is cool!)

Hi Sabrina

Our little Ruby has settled in very well indeed. She's about five times as big as when we first brought her home and is very familiar with every corner, nook, seat, bench, and running tap possible in our place - she's a very nosy wee button.

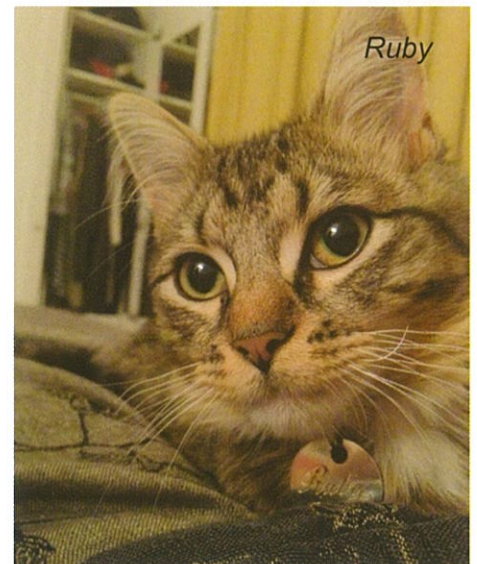
She's also very affectionate and cuddly and loves a good snuggle ... unfortunately, she has a penchant for a 5:30am 'lick and cuddle' which eliminates the need for my alarm most mornings! However, we can't quite bear to do the tough love and leave her outside our room.

She's grown into a beautiful wee thing ... lovely coat and a pretty face, which has led her to 'great' things in front of the camera ... our own little supermodel who will grace an upcoming pet booklet. We'll keep you posted.

Thanks for all your support at the CPS, but mostly, for just having our little Rubes there and waiting for us on that fateful Sunday morning visit three months ago. We're thrilled with our gorgeous addition.

Cheers

Jo & Dan



IN MEMORIAM



Frankus

Nine years ago, Jon and I arrived at the CPS, looking for a matched pair of adult cats. We came home with Sam and Fox, renaming them Frank and Tim, after the TV detectives in *Homicide: Life on the Street*.

Two of the largest cats we'd ever seen, we soon nicknamed Frank "Frankasaurus" or "Frankus" for short. Frank proved to be wilful, stubborn, naughty ... and very affectionate.

Two and a half years ago, Frank developed cancer. Thanks to the experts at Ryde Vet and SASH in North Ryde, he was put on chemotherapy which kept his lymphoma in remission for almost that entire time.

It was as though there was nothing the matter with him at all. The only unwanted side effect was that it made him even hungrier!

One year ago, Frank's chronic pancreatitis flared, he grew too weak to walk, and we prepared for the worst. But he was too stubborn to die, and astonished us on Christmas morning by jumping into our bed and demanding his breakfast.

One month ago, Frank's cancer finally overcame his chemo, as we knew it would eventually.

Though his health quickly deteriorated, his personality remained unchanged: barely able to crawl, he still tried to escape through the front door and pee on the bathmat (both within the space of a minute). When the vets paid him their last visit, he died as he lived, grumbling, insisting on his own way, and peeing on things he oughtn't to (the bed!).

Frankus beat the odds, living far longer than the average

lymphoma patient to reach the venerable age of fifteen. Timbo is as healthy as a horse, as usual, and seems to have adjusted to his big brother's absence. We hope to pay you another visit next year and surprise Tim with a new little brother or sister.

It's no overstatement to say that the boys changed our lives deeply, teaching us a lot about responsibility, worry, and love.

Thank you for bringing us and the boys together.

Kate

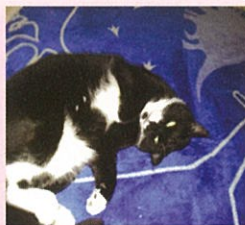


Tikiri

This donation is made in the loving memory of our little girl (cat) Tikiri who was taken away from us too soon on 2 January 2013. We miss her so very much each day but we are so grateful she came to our lives 12 years ago and for all the wonderful memories we have.

Life without our little girl is tough. It's exactly a month today since we lost her and we are all missing her so very much ... even her two sisters, two dogs, are missing the little boss lady.

Kamal and Dash



Golly

Our beautiful gentle boy is in Heaven. We miss you.

Lyn and Bet



TROI

18 years in our lives, forever in our hearts

T is for terrific, the cat that she was

R is for her radiant beauty

O is for on top of anything you put in her way

I is for independent, the cat she will be forever

And the thing I'll miss the most about TROI is seeing her on top of the washing machine talking to me as I got my ice blocks.

RIP TROI, a girl's best friend
Chine



Angel-Ambrose

Appropriately named, an Angel. Such a considerate cat, intelligent, sociable, a truly good character and loving personality

Laid to rest at about 1530hrs 27 February 2013. Passed peacefully with Dr and his Human companion gently caressing him

He may have left us, however his gentle natured spirit shall remain.

RIP DEAR ONE.

Carolyn

CAT PROTECTION DIARY

Thank you

We'd like to thank all our members and donors, and the very kind people who remember us in their wills, for your fantastic support. Every day, we only survive thanks to your generosity, and the kindness of our sponsors.

We are so grateful to Bayer Animal Health and Hill's Pet Nutrition for the support they give us in providing our cats with high quality parasite treatment and food. For a small charity like ours, their support is vital in ensuring we can provide our cats with premium nutrition and health care. We retail their products also (at very competitive prices).

We also thank the makers of Feliway, a synthetic feline pheromone that can be used in a diffuser or as a spray to help calm cats. Feliway is particularly useful when introducing new cats, or if you've moved house, or – if like us – you have a large multi-cat facility! We use and retail Feliway and can recommend its benefits from first-hand experience.

We're also grateful to our photographers – cats are beautiful but notoriously difficult to sit still for the camera! Many thanks to Danielle Lyonne of Animax Photography, Joshua Vernon-Rogers, Dr Anne Fawcett, Margaret Burns, Joslin Hartley, David Talbot and Kari Krall for their great work. Thanks too, to Pets Palace and Marketing Mechanics for their support of our discount desexing programs.

Finally, we'd like to thank our friends at *PETS* magazine for helping us to reach a wide audience of children and families. Their magazine provides not just a lovely escape (all those beautiful photos of animals!) but a very serious message on socially responsible pet ownership. *PETS* provides important education about the value of companion animals to the next generation, with flair and style. In an issue soon, they'll feature an interview with our Feline Services Manager, Nerida Atkin.

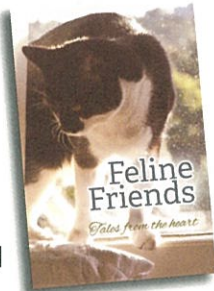
They say it 'takes a village to raise a child' – anything important is never the work of one person! It takes a community for a charity like Cat Protection to succeed in caring for cats – a big THANK YOU to our community.

Feline Friends

Yes, we've told you lots about our beautiful book (such as for every five copies we sell, we get enough funds to desex one cat) but we'd like to share what others have

said. Here is a broad geographic sample – we also had fun talking about the book with James Valentine on ABC 702 Sydney.

Newcastle Herald: "These stories confirm what every cat owner knows – that cats are warm,



lovable and loving. These heart-warming and inspiring stories are accompanied by beautiful photographs of mainly ordinary moggies who have enriched the lives of their owners."

Otago Daily Times: "One of the most cheering [stories] is told by a woman who was suffering severe depression. She took two ginger cats ... they gave her a reason to get up in the morning and eventually turn her life around. Illustrated with attractive photographs and printed on quality paper, *Feline Friends* is not a book to read in a sitting, but one for cat lovers to dip into at odd moments."

MX: "As viewers of YouTube star

Henri le Chat Noir well know, there's something about cats. This celebration of all things feline is the hardback equivalent of all those crazy addictive cat videos. Readers can purr knowing all royalties benefit the Cat Protection Society."

The Conscious Cat (US website): "I thoroughly enjoyed this collection of stories but what really makes this book special are the photos. The images are stunning ... The stories are charming and heart touching, ranging from children writing about their cats to cats helping their humans through the dark times ... This lovely book is a real treat and would make a wonderful gift for cat lovers."

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

A close-up photograph of a black and white cat's face. The cat has a white muzzle with a pink nose and long, white whiskers. A human hand is gently touching the cat's cheek. The background is dark.

A close-up photograph of a black and white cat's face. The cat has a white muzzle with a pink nose and long, white whiskers. A human hand is gently touching the cat's cheek. The background is dark.

In Australia, there is the potential for lungworm infection, particularly for cats with outdoor access.¹ Advocate® controls and prevents fleas, heartworm, roundworm, hookworm and ear mites and is now proven to control lungworm infection in cats², so everyone can breathe easy. Use Advocate® for the most complete all-in-one parasite protection for cats.



**The most complete
all-in-one parasite protection**

References: 1. Lacortia L *et al*, *JAVMA* 2009; 235(1):43-49. 2. Traversa D *et al*, *Parasitol Res* 2009; 105:S55-S62. © Bayer Australia Ltd 2011. Advocate® is a registered trademark of Bayer AG, Leverkusen, Germany. Bayer Australia