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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

I know all members of this Society share an ardent desire to improve the lives of our feline friends. We are honoured to be entrusted by all of you, our members, to do this life-saving work every day. Staff at our Welfare Office had the opportunity to speak with many of you about this shared passion following the Winter issue of Cat Affairs which, for the first time in many years, did not contain a membership renewal form. So many members phoned, keen to renew their membership and support for the cats of New South Wales, and I'm told that many wonderful conversations took place as a result. Rest assured, the reason for that omission was not carelessness! Thanks to many months of hard work the first week of August saw the successful launch of our new membership management system, Salesforce. Though we have said goodbye to our annual membership renewal form, you will be able to renew your membership in a way that suits you best (including an online option) which we hope will be much easier for you while also reducing our administrative costs and reliance on paper. You have our heartfelt gratitude for your patience while we make these changes. A program such as Salesforce is a considerable expenditure for any organisation, and especially for a small charity like Cat Protection. The Salesforce Foundation have shown exceptional generosity in making their Non Profit Starter Pack available to charities free of charge. Of course, all change requires fine-tuning to ensure a smooth transition, and it has taken time to refine Salesforce so it is the best fit for our needs. Much of this work took place before launch day; the system has been custom-tailored for our needs and there is no other exactly like it anywhere in the world. This would not have been possible without the countless hours of work generously donated by the company who shaped this wonderful system for us, Morphate. We owe the staff of Morphate and the Salesforce Foundation our thanks.

That Cat Protection has been able to invest in this project is a testament to the strategic vision of our board, the dedication of our members, and the generosity of the kind-hearted men and women who honour us with bequests.

As with all things we do at Cat Protection, feline health and welfare is at the very heart of our decision to make this change. Salesforce will not only streamline membership management, it will also strengthen our cattery management. Salesforce is being used every day by our staff to monitor and record the health of our feline residents. Every meal, every health check and every dose of life-saving medicine is recorded. This is already helping us protect the health of the cats in our shelter by spotting early signs of illness in individuals as well as monitoring for the spread of disease. At any given time we may have up to 180 cats and kittens in our care. With this data we can extend our ability to care for cats much further than those precious souls in our shelter. By sharing the information we gather with our much trusted and widely respected veterinary partners we will make a valuable contribution to feline health research in Australia and cement our reputation as a best-practice, evidence-led shelter. I hope you will agree this is another example of our small organisation's big impact, and something of which you can all be proud.

Kaye Isbister President



Cover photograph ZaaZoo by Carol Hanna

Paging Dr Google

By Anne Fawcett BA(Hons) BSc(Vet)(Hons) BVSc(Hons) MVetStud GradCertEdStud(Higher Ed) MANZVCS (Animal Welfare) DipECAWBM(AWSEL)

Confession: I Google. If I see a doctor who says I need a particular test, I Google it. If my car overheats, I Google it: "reasons for car overheating". In fact I did that last weekend. Google, like loads of other internet search engines, is a really useful tool.

But like any tool, it can be misused.

I'd like to share two stories. The first demonstrates the positive power of the internet. A colleague was contacted by clients. Their beloved cat had suddenly become very unwell. He was lethargic and had difficulty breathing. The night before, the owner had applied an anti-hair loss treatment to his own head and relaxed on the couch. For reasons which are only known to the cat, the cat began licking the owner's head. For reasons that are only known to the owner, he timed this behaviour. The head-licking continued for precisely 11 minutes. The owner didn't realise, at the time, that the cat was ingesting his anti-baldness preparation. When the cat was unwell the following day, the owner Googled "cat" and the brand name of the preparation. It turns out this preparation has been associated with heart failure in cats. The owner raced the cat up to visit my colleague who had never heard of this syndrome. Clinical examination revealed that the cat indeed was in heart failure. The owner handed over a print out containing references he found online. The cat was rushed to a specialist and was the only cat at the time to survive toxicity from this product. In this case, the owner's Googling saved vital time and – possibly – this cat's life.

Here's another story. A client of mine had a cat who had trouble walking. She looked up "arthritis" and "cats" and found herself on several feline discussion forums. many of which suggested that veterinary treatment was unnecessarily expensive. After searching online she found comments from one owner, including a video, showing that this owner's cat seemed to have less difficulty walking after use of the anti-inflammatory drug ibuprofen. She administered ibuprofen to her own cat, resulting in acute kidney failure. The cat was hospitalised and required a range of treatments, including intravenous fluids, anti-nausea medication, gastroprotectants and a prescription diet. The cat survived, albeit with some degree of permanent kidney damage, and at quite an expense to the owner. Ibuprofen is a known cause of kidney failure in cats. That information was available online too, but unfortunately the client didn't find it.

Why do we Google?

There are a million legitimate reasons to Google. One



is that we have concerns and we may feel that we didn't take it all in during a consultation. For example, if your veterinarian is telling you something concerning (for example, that your cat has a lump which may or may not be cancerous) that's terrifying. Bad or worrying news increases our blood pressure, activates our fight-or-flight response, and basically makes it hard to absorb all the info. Another variation on this theme is simply not thinking of all the questions we want to ask at the time. I'm quilty of that too.

Another reason for Googling is to confirm what we're being told is fair, true and complete. Long gone are the days when "what the doctor says goes" – we like to know that we're being given the whole picture.

Sometimes we Google things because we're too embarrassed to ask, or perhaps we want a second opinion. All of these are good reasons for seeking further information. Yet clients will often say to me, "I know I shouldn't ... but I Googled".

I have two responses to that comment.

- 1. "There's nothing wrong with Googling!"
- 2. "What did you find???".

The big question is, how do you Google responsibly?

There are a number of things to consider.

- What is the source of the website you are looking at? Is it a reputable site? Is the information based on peer-reviewed studies? Is there a potential conflict of interest? Example: a client informed me about a website relating to squamous cell carcinomas in cats. This provided some incorrect information, suggesting that the best treatment was a drug that happened to be manufactured by the company that owned the website. This drug was not registered, and in experiments has been associated with concerning side effects (which were glossed over on the site).
- Is the content relevant to Australia? The internet is international. Some diagnostics, drugs or treatments are only available in certain countries.
- Beware "testimonials". Testimonials or reviews from cat owners or customers (for example, people who have tried a particular drug or treatment) should be taken with a grain of salt, particularly when they contradict the evidence base. For example, a number of clients purchased a homeopathic flea treatment advertised online, backed up by owner testimonials. We subsequently had to treat many of these cats for flea-associated dermatitis.
- Beware the extreme experience. When things go uneventfully, people are rarely moved to report them. But when the cat poo hits the fan, people vent online. This results in a bit of a bias towards more extreme or scary outcomes being documented, with routine cases being under-represented. For example, there are plenty of online reports documenting terrible effects of chemotherapy in cats. In reality, side effects are reasonably uncommon. But these online experiences can scare people off trying, when such treatment is likely to improve the quality of life of their cat. Ask yourself, when you evaluate online information, is this likely to be reflecting a worst case scenario? Is it likely to be affecting a best case scenario?
- Side-effects can be under or over stated. If you carefully read the labels of common medications, including over-the-counter medications, side-effects range from headaches and nausea to organ failure and death. Just because a side-effect is listed on a package insert or website does not mean it will occur in an individual patient. Similarly, just because a side-effect is not listed on an insert or website does not mean it won't occur. Finally, just because something is a listed side-effect of a medication does not mean that the occurrence of that condition or sign (for example vomiting) is definitely a side-effect of that treatment.
- Different conditions can cause lesions that look the same. This is important when you're using Google image search. For example, a mast cell tumour can look exactly the same as a benign fatty tumour (lipoma). Flea allergy dermatitis can look like a drug reaction, atopic dermatitis, cutaneous lymphoma or a raging contact allergy. You can't make a definitive diagnosis based on the fact that something exactly matches an image.

So what do you do?

- Ask your veterinarian for suggested websites or online references. In some cases there are fantastic resources, for example on feline diabetes or kidney disease, that incorporate information sheets, articles and even the odd video. One of my favourite sites is the International Cat Care site, http://icatcare.org/
- If you're presented with conflicting information, ask your vet.
- If you find something you're concerned about, such as a potential diagnosis, a new treatment that may be available, discuss it with your veterinarian. Would this be appropriate for your cat? Why or why not?

So what happened when I Googled the car overheating issue? I got a few ideas, built my own list of differential diagnoses based on the "symptoms" my car was having, and presented the list to the mechanic. The problem turned out to be something else, but we had a productive discussion and ruled out those other causes. Ultimately, nothing replaces a good physical examination of the patient – but if you're armed with information you have confidence in, you can make informed decisions.



Photo by Jamie Fawcett

Anne Fawcett is a veterinarian at Sydney Animal Hospitals Inner West (T: 9516 1466) and a lecturer at the University of Sydney. She has a strong interest in animal welfare, and is a Diplomate of the European College of Animal Welfare and Behaviour Medicine (in Animal Welfare Science, Ethics and Law) as well as a Member of the Australian

and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (in Animal Welfare).

Perhaps more importantly, she is owned by two cats – Michael a 16-year-old moggy, and Hero, a four-year-old, three-legged, quick-witted and unfortunately gymnastic cat, originally rescued from the Cat Protection Society. Anne blogs at www. smallanimaltalk.com and also – like the rest of the world – Googles stuff.

CAT PROTECTION DIARY

Thank you Team Kitty2Surf

Congratulations and thank you to the members of Team Kitty2Surf, who ran, walked or fundraised for the City2Surf this year. A fabulous sum of more than \$8300 was raised for our felines! This fantastic contribution makes 2016 our most successful City2Surf to date!

It is no small thing to spend the chilly winter months training for this event, so we are extra grateful to all of the team members who volunteered their time and efforts to support Cat Protection.

Our kitties purr with delight at your generosity. Thank you to Olivia; Linda; Emilie; Paul; Jo; Jake; Sam & Ethan; Sarah; Amalia; Nerida; Carol; Karin; Julia & Kristina and a huge thank you to everyone who donated.

The money raised will go to direct cat-care programs to ensure all the felines in our care are in best health and spirits when they find their forever homes.







Deutsche Bank volunteers

A big thank you to the wonderful corporate volunteers from Deutsche Bank who visited us during July and helped out in our Adoption Centre and Op Shop. It is always a pleasure to welcome corporate volunteers and winter really was the season for it at Cat Protection – perhaps the lure of kitten cuddles was too strong to resist. We know the feeling well!

If you'd like to discuss corporate volunteering opportunities at Cat Protection, please feel free to contact our Community Development Officer, Carol. Carol can be reached on 9519 7201 or by email at carol@catprotection.org.au



Cat registration goes DIY and digital

For the first time in NSW breeders and cat owners can now use an online pet registry.

The NSW Pet Registry provides a simpler process for owners and breeders to register their cats and dogs, update contact details, report missing pets, transfer ownership and pay most lifetime-registration fees, all from a computer or mobile device.

The online registry makes it easier for breeders to register their litters. When breeders create a profile, they are allocated a breeder ID number in the registry.

If you quote this number when adding newly microchipped kittens to the registry your kittens will be linked to your profile so you don't have to type in your details for each new pet.

Kittens in NSW must be microchipped and placed on the NSW Pet Registry by the time they reach 12 weeks of age, or prior to sale.

Pet owners are encouraged to desex cats and dogs at an early age; a reduced registration fee is available. Vets will need to update the registry when a pet is desexed.

The NSW Government is strongly committed to helping families look after their pets.

Visit www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au and create an online profile.



CAT PROTECTION DIARY

Volunteers' party

On a lovely Saturday in National Volunteers Week, we held our annual celebration for Cat Protection's volunteers. This is CEO Kristina Vesk's thank you address.

Thank you to everyone for being here today and celebrating not just your fantastic volunteering but the work of volunteers everywhere - we wouldn't enjoy a civil society if every effort was a paid job, if every task was part of a commercial transaction.

People volunteer in different ways ... for example, our Board gives their time freely to give Cat Protection strategic direction, to ensure compliance, monitor performance and ensure we're accountable.

In the past year, just 42 volunteers sorted through, priced and sold more than 23,000 items in our Op Shop!

Our foster carers lost 23,000 hours of sleep ... or perhaps I exaggerate, but that's what it feels like to a sleep-deprived anxious human trying to quantify the grading of every poo produced by a litter of little kittens several times a day!!

And while we're on the topic, there's no shortage of poo for our cattery volunteers either - we are talking way more than 30,000 litter trays cleaned each year!

But then there's the fun side. like making new friends – whether with your fellow volunteers, staff or customers.

And what about those precious bonds we make with cats and kittens? How wonderful these are, even if it does hurt just a little bit watching them leave for the loving arms - and laps - of their forever families.



And there is heartbreak too, such as when everything has been given but it's not enough, and that little charge is called to cat heaven. How much we grieve.

We are all together in this endeavour of caring for cats from all our different walks of life. with all our different skills and abilities, the strong bond we share is that we love and respect our feline friends.

The strength of this and our mutual respect and compassion makes the Cat Protection community a truly beautiful one and it's why we've been going strong for more than 50 years.

Of our 150 plus volunteers. we have 26 who have been generously donating their time to Cat Protection for more than 5 years each – in fact, we have 28 if you count the volunteer contribution of Board directors Nita Harvey and Angelika Elliott.

At a minimum, that's 130 years of service!

But we know it's even more than that because many of these hardworking volunteers have more than 10 years of service!!

What an amazing commitment, and what an extraordinary gift to feline welfare.

Congratulations to you all and thank you everyone for your stellar contribution not only to cat care, but to making the world a kinder, nicer place for all.





Open Day: Considering a career with cats ... think outside the (litter) box

The theme for our Open Day this year is 'Cat Careers Day'. Throughout the day we will have relaxed presentations from people who work in the pet sector. Guest speakers include vets, teachers, journalists, policy experts, artists and researchers all exercising their unique talents in the service of companion animals.

Even if you're not interested in a career change, these talks promise to be interesting listening. and there will be lots more to see with refreshments (including our famous catnip tea!) supplied by our community partners, Telstra Store Newtown.

Speakers include vets Dr David Hughes and Dr Bec Brady from Concord Veterinary Hospital, plus policy and program staff from the Office of Local Government. A more detailed program will be announced in the coming weeks, so keep an eve on the Events section of our website for updates.

11am - 2pm Saturday 5 November Cat Protection shelter 103 Enmore Road Newtown

Hello

My husband and I wanted to update you since we adopted Will in October 2015. Will (Willikins) has settled in to the home with Lulu who we adopted a few months before. In the beginning things were difficult with Lulu wanting to be the boss but Will and Lulu are now the best of friends. Will has had a bit of sickness with food allergies but now he is on a special Hill's Prescription diet - he is gaining weight and 100% well. We are so glad Lulu now has a brother and company. Will has made us so happy and we thank the Cat Protection Society for rescuing him and bringing him into our lives.

Tara

Dear Kristina

I adopted Sir Edmund Hillary on 4 September last year at 4 months old. He climbs everything, hence the name.

He is so loving and intelligent and makes me laugh every day. I love him so much and am very content to know there are people like you bringing people like me and Hillary together.

I was so delighted to see his siblings in the Winter edition of *Cat Affairs* and to know they also have a wonderful home.

Carol & Hillary

Hello

Just a short message to let you know that our little kitten we adopted is doing well. We named him Fungus (because of his unique ears). He loves his new house and his many toys!

We are totally in love with him (even though he wakes us up at 5am biting our toes under the blankets).

Siri & Matthias





Hello

On 22 December 2015 my household adopted this gorgeous little female tabby called Galaxy. We adore her to bits and as you can see she has settled in very well. Thanks for all your amazing work in finding forever homes for so many stray cats of Sydney. You do a wonderful service.

Love from Tina & family x









H

We adopted brothers Winter and Shadow from CPS in early December.

Cheeky and playful, both kittens have settled in well and love to play with their human siblings.

Please find attached some photos.

Regards

Ricky, Kylie, Nathan & Isabel

Hi Kylie

Meet our very loved and beautiful ex Cat Protection kitties. The grey is Hunter and the tortoiseshell is Wizjn. We were so lucky to get these two, they have been model additions to our human family. Never have we had any mess as they were perfectly kitty litter trained and now they seem more human than cat. At 5pm Hunter meows to let Jayce know it's dinner time and at 9.30pm they both head for their beds in the laundry where they comfortably stay till around 6am before coming out for breakfast. We have moved in the last 12 months and at this house they come outside for brief nature adventures and just love exploring the garden around our pool.

Thank you so much for letting us share our lives with these treasures.

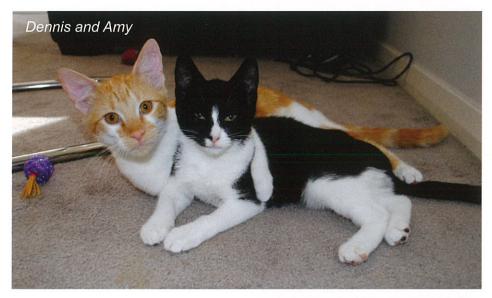
Regards

Nerida

Dear Kristina

Thought you'd enjoy this picture of Sascha and her good friend Jub Jub the lizard.

Petra



Hi Annabella

I thought you might like a couple of photos of Missie. She's been with us now for nearly 6 months, and as you would expect, rules the roost! Absolutely no regrets.

Missie is an absolute delight. She follows me around like a dog at times, and it's always a race up the stairs at night to see who can get to the bedroom first.

I would recommend senior cats to anyone, particularly for retirees (like us).

I often think of Missie's former mum. It must have been so hard for her to surrender Missie. I would like to think she knows Missie has found a good home.

Kind regards Paulene x

Hi!

We adopted Lucy yesterday - yes she is a dynamo! But we are all madly in love with her. Here she is snuggled with her "sister" Hannah. They slept the whole night together with a very early wakeup call at 6am. Thank you so much - we are besotted and truly adore this little girl.

Mandy





H

We adopted Juan and Juanita on 26 January 2012 which was the first Australia Day my wife and I had living in Sydney. They had both been part of abandoned litters and were the last ones to be adopted so they had been put together.

We wanted 2 kittens, they were already used to each other and they were both so friendly when we visited that picking them was easy. They immediately become Dennis (Bergkamp) and Amy (Winehouse) and adopting them is the best thing we have done in Australia.

They both have so much character and are so affectionate, especially around food time!! If anyone reading this is thinking of adopting then just go for it, you won't regret it as they'll bring so much joy and love into your life.

В&Нх



Hi

I have attached a few photos of Sasha. We adopted her at the end of November last year.

Sasha is a very social, affectionate and energetic kitten. She loves playing with us, loves being on the window sill watching everything and her favourite toy is a mouse. She is a joy to be with and is dearly loved by us all.

Thank you for helping us find a kitten.

Fiona

Hi there

Min (formerly Mia) was adopted in Oct 2015, and we love her to bits. We fondly refer to her as "the ferocious beast"! Part attack-cat, part head bumping pat-fiend, there is never a dull moment with this derpy little girl in our home.

All the best Katie & Josh





Hi

Ginger Nut is settling in well, she's not 100% there but she's making progress as you can see.

Thanks

Leon

Greetings from Krista and Toralei!!

We appreciate that Krista and Toralei spent a good extended stay at Cat Protection and have a lot of friends who would love to know how wonderfully well they are doing. We love them dearly ... they are wonderful girls.

Craig & Troy



It's been a few months since we adopted Henry from CPS so I thought I'd send through some pictures.

After a week or two of hiding under the lounge, he settled into living in our little unit and has become a lovely (though noisy) addition. Young Henry is very chatty, mewing at us until he's fed, patted, played with, or provided with a comfortable lap to sleep on, depending on his thoughts at the time

He loves a good pat, even allowing them on his soft underbelly. He likes his little house, cuddling up with his Jawa toy; but hates his Garfield face on a stick toy and wants to destroy it and everything it stands for. The latter is good for getting him some exercise!

He is super-motivated by food, greedily scoffing anything placed in front of him even if it's a change from his regular fare or has added medicine.

He's a cheeky bugger but we love having him around!

Cheers

Nathan & Chris







Hi guys

Attached are pictures of the now not so small kittens Charlie (black and white) and Loki (black) are doing well!

Ryan



Hi there

We adopted Ember 3 weeks ago and just wanted to let you know that she has settled in well. She had to go back to the vet a couple of time for a lip ulcer but that has almost healed now. She is very inquisitive, has gained 150g, loves to destroy boxes and is showing no fear of our dogs. We are very happy to have her and would like to thank Emilie for pointing her out to us.

Thank you very much for the great work the Society does.

Ilka





Hi guys

I just wanted to give you a quick update on the gorgeous kitten we adopted on Friday afternoon, who we have named 'Luna'.

Luna was a bit jumpy when she got home on Friday, quite understandably. But by Saturday, she was ready to go! She has now explored the whole house, found her favourite chill-out spots. and loves nothing more than playing with her toys and her new 'mumma' and 'dadda'. When she's had enough, it's time for cuddles and pats on one of our laps (we all feel so lucky when we're the chosen one!) It's only been a couple of days, but we are all in LOVE with Luna! Thank you for helping us find the perfect pet to complete our family, and for taking such wonderful care of her until she found her forever home.

Here are some pictures!

Best

Georgia

Hi

This is Olive Margaret adopted from you guys in early 2010. She just turned 6 and is the Queen of our house. She has a massive attitude problem and her love and affection is on her terms only, but we love her tirelessly and unconditionally. She changed our life for the better as we changed hers.

Jade



Hi

We adopted Solomon about a week and a half ago, and I just wanted to share some pics of how he is settling in. He is the coolest cat, such a smoocher! He and the dog are finding their boundaries nicely and are co-existing *really* well for such a short time frame:)

He is such a dude, and we couldn't be happier.

Thanks

Bron & family



Hi

Here are some photos of my cats. The white one is Lima, adopted from CPS last year. The black one is Milo, adopted from RSPCA waaaaay back in 2006.

Phiona



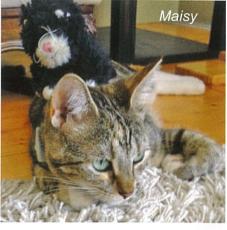
Hi there

This is Maisy, who's been with us for nearly two years now. From the moment we met - when she looked me straight in the eye with such intelligence and character - I knew I had to take her home. The rest of the family was pretty easily convinced that she was the one, and she's been adored ever since.

Maisy was supposed to be an indoor cat so we built her an outdoor enclosure. However, right from the start she was determined to play outside and in the end she prevailed. Her favourite thing is to entice us outside and play chasings or hide-and-seek, and she certainly makes gardening much more fun. I think if she could swing it so she could go for runs with us her world would be complete.

We love Maisy, she's playful, chatty and affectionate. We're very grateful to the Cat Protection Society for saving this friendly stray.

Alison



H

Here is a photo of Billie, who was called Luna when we adopted her.

Jarrad



Hi guys

Just thought I would give you an update on little miss Sophie. She has made herself at home and is coming out of her shell more and more each day. She is amazing and I'm so glad I adopted her.

Kristy



Hi

I adopted Rosie in March 2014. Best spontaneous decision I ever made. She turned three on 6 November which makes us both Scorpios. Rosie loves hiding in freshly cleaned sheets then wrestling with them when I'm trying to make the bed. Rosie's favourite treat food is hommus & nori which she goes mad for. Rosie's favourite things to play with are cardboard rolls & ribbon which she got a box full of for her birthday.

Susan



Hi there

We named our cats Chip and Dale and they're beautiful, loving, cuddly little things that we love.

Thanks

Kate

Hi folks

Here is Leah happy at her new home. She has settled in nicely and is in the process of letting us know who's the boss.

Best wishes

Phil





Dear friends

A quick Thank You, as today is the 2nd anniversary for Jack & me.

He's given me so much love & happiness, many thanks from both of us!

Warmest regards

Leanne



Hi guys

This is Max whose name was Smokey when we adopted him. What a nice little gentleman he's turned out to be. We adopted him on 2 September 2015. He was very slow to warm to his little family and in fact only in the last couple of months he has become super affectionate and makes little chirping noises and loves to give little head rubs. The funny thing is this little guy is actually my first cat after having dogs all my life, and I chirp back!! He's very happy in our lives, anyone who thinks they can give a cat a forever home should!!

Sean



IN MEMORIAM

Portia

June 1997 to 30 July 2016 19 wonderful years together.

Will sorely miss you. Your friend and slave, Fred We will miss you. Samcat, Sophia, Tommy,

HG, Claude, Minka and

Isabella



The Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of Heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge. When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigour; those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing: they each miss someone very special, someone who was left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent; his eager body begins to quiver. Suddenly, he breaks from the group, flying over the green grass, faster and faster. You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into those trusting eyes, so long gone from your life, but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together ...

Author Unknown



In memory of Abby

My dear Abby passed away on Wednesday 20 April, aged 15. She had kidney failure for the last year. I had tried to get used to the idea that she wouldn't have

She hated going out to the vet and wouldn't even let me put the blood pressure medicine paste on her ear. Still, in the last few months she had been remarkably healthy, so it was quite sudden when she got sick on the Monday 18th. We had her last two days together as she was becoming more and more still.

I got her, aged 1, from the CPS in April 2002 and she was the perfect companion. She was the most beautiful silky sweet smelling cat I have ever known. And perfect to live in a unit, as she had never been outside. It was like we were sharing.

She was quite a scaredy cat and I had to teach her how to play almost. Visitors were fascinated that she was "in a cupboard" somewhere, though she would come out after an hour or so to see what was happening. But she was also very independent and had her own preoccupations that I didn't quite understand. What could she see going on outside the window?

Now I'm saying hello to the cat who isn't there. And patting a stuffed toy.

I am so grateful to her and to the CPS.

Anna

Office and Adoptions: 103 Enmore Road, Newtown Office:

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

Adoptions:

11am to 2.30pm, Monday to Friday; 10am to 3.30pm Saturday

10am to 2.30pm Sunday

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 to 5pm Tel: 9557 4818

