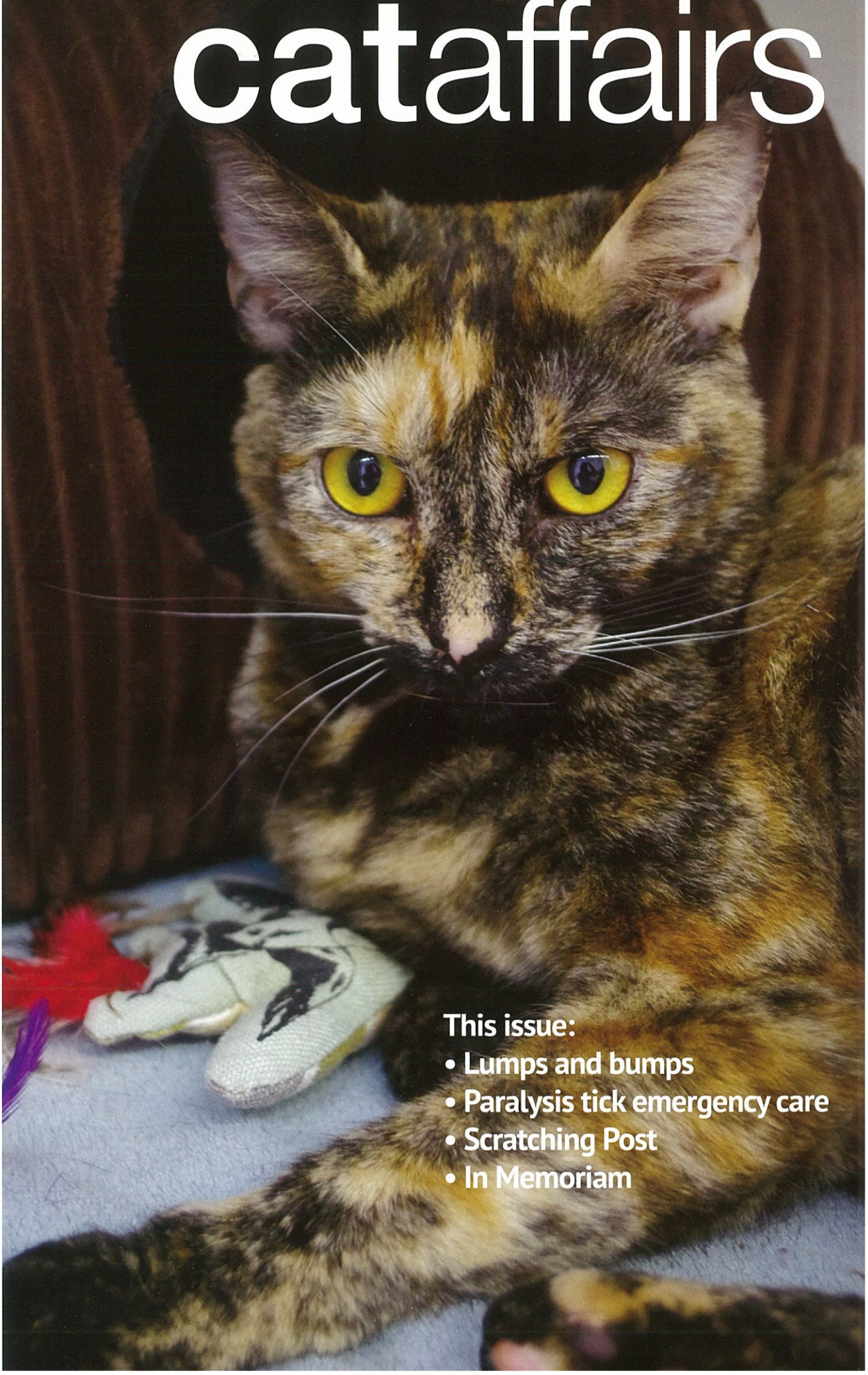


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cataffairs

cat protection society
OF NSW INC.



This issue:

- **Lumps and bumps**
- **Paralysis tick emergency care**
- **Scratching Post**
- **In Memoriam**

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Care for cats!

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President's Report

Thank you to all members who attended our Annual General Meeting on 5 November. We advised in the AGM notice that Sue Schreiner was re-nominating for her position on the Board — and at the time she fully intended to do so. However, as often happens, life had other had other plans and Sue became unable to re-nominate. From everyone at Cat Protection, we thank Sue for her contributions and wish her the very best. I am pleased to welcome Petra Dobrijevic to the Board as Appointed Director. Petra has a wealth of policy experience, at both state and federal level, as well as knowledge of feline welfare gained in her years of association with Cat Protection.

Those of you who were unable to attend the AGM can access the 2015-16 annual report on our website, or phone our office to request a copy.

We once again received an unqualified audit in the 2015-16 financial year, which I think reflects wonderfully on the Board's sound stewardship of Cat Protection. We finished the year with an extraordinary profit thanks to the generosity of the wonderfully kind men and women who remembered us in their wills. Bequests still make up a large portion of our income each year, and members will recall from previous annual reports that we are working on developing new revenue streams. To that end, we have appointed Perpetual to manage two funds: a future fund, and a building fund.

These investments are envisaged as a way to secure the future of our Society. Some of the cats we take in require long-term rehabilitation and care before they can be rehomed, and a multi-cat environment such as our shelter can cause stress and slow this recovery process. It has been a long-held dream of Cat Protection to establish a rehabilitation centre with all the benefits of a clinic and all the comforts of a home. The Perpetual funds we have established will allow us to purchase property for a rehabilitation centre if we have to move quickly. In the meantime, we continue to work hard to care for cats and the people who love them and to do so in a responsible way which honours the generosity of bequestors, donors and members.

Our life-saving work is only possible thanks to the combined efforts of staff, volunteers, members and donors. Thank you to all of you who contributed to make this year a successful one. From everyone at Cat Protection, I wish you and your loved ones a peaceful and restful Christmas and a happy and successful New Year.

Kaye Isbister

President



Cover photograph
Carol (now Jo Jo)
By Carol Hanna

Lumps and bumps

By Dr David Hughes, BSc BVSc (Merit)

Lumps, bumps, swellings – these are some of the most common things we see in cats on a daily basis in veterinary practice. Some lumps and bumps are nasty, some swellings are painful, and some are nothing to worry about at all – but how do you tell the difference? And when should you seek veterinary advice?

To keep things simple, lumps and bumps can be classed into three groups: nasty, potentially nasty, and not nasty. Nasty lumps are cancers – cancerous growths or tumours that need immediate intervention. Potentially nasty lumps and bumps include growths that could become nasty lumps, for example, pre-cancerous changes on the ear margins of a white cat; or those that pose a real risk to the health of your cat, for example, a cat fight abscess; or severe fungal infections, such as cryptococcus. Lumps that are not nasty include cysts, scabs and benign growths, for example, sebaceous cysts.

How can you tell the difference between nasty, potentially nasty and not nasty lumps? The golden rule is “if in doubt, consult your veterinarian”.

If you find a lump, bump or swelling on your cat that you have not noticed before, the best thing to do is to take your cat to your vet and have them examine your cat as soon as practical. I always tell my clients that if you find something on your cat and you are worried enough to call the clinic to ask for advice, it is best to arrange a check-up for your cat.

The best case scenario is that your vet tells you it is nothing to worry about – you have peace of mind knowing it is nothing to worry about and you are only out of pocket a small amount for your vet’s consult fee. The worst case

scenario if you leave the lump and do nothing is that the lump grows, or even worse, causes your cat pain. If some time later you do consult your veterinarian, it may be too late for them to help. Your cat may be sicker, or require much more invasive surgery and a longer stay in hospital. If in doubt – head to the vet!

The most common lumps, bumps and swellings we see in practice, and this is by no means an exhaustive list, are cat fight abscesses, severe dermatitis (usually as a result of fleas or food allergy) and cancers (in the skin and beneath the skin). We also see some weird and wonderful lumps and bumps!

Cat fight abscess

Cats are territorial and will often fight with neighbouring cats to defend their territory. The majority of these fights happen between dusk and dawn so the best way to avoid these is to keep your cat indoors, especially during the night.

A cat fight abscess can occur anywhere on your cat’s body that has been bitten (or scratched) by another cat. We commonly see them on the feet and legs, and on and around the face or tail. How they come about is quite simple – a cat’s tooth acts like a needle and pierces the skin of another cat. There are bacteria on the cat’s teeth, and these bacteria are in a sense inoculated under the skin of the bitten cat. The broken skin seals over where the tooth entered and this provides the perfect environment for these bacteria, which thrive in the absence of oxygen, to “have a party”. The bacteria multiply and the cat’s body responds by sending all available defence cells to try to ward off the infection. This entire process usually takes about five days, and what results is a cat fight abscess. Basically a ginormous pimple – sometimes containing up to 100mLs

of disgusting and smelly pus.

Often the first sign of a cat fight abscess is a painful swelling somewhere on your cat’s body. The initial bite from days earlier is often missed and your cat just wanders in one day with a huge swollen paw and a serious limp. If you witness or hear a fight involving your cat, the sooner you can get your cat to a veterinarian, the sooner we can begin treatment to hopefully avoid an abscess occurring in the first place. Cat fight abscesses are painful and potentially nasty, because left untreated they can lead to sepsis, inappetence and dehydration. Cat fights are the main cause of spread of diseases such as feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV).

The treatment for cat fight abscesses is varied – if caught early enough it may be as easy as some antibiotics and pain relief. In severe cases, your cat may require a general anaesthetic, surgery (to remove all the infected material) and hospitalisation. Recently I had what I thought would be a relatively simple overnight stay to treat a cat fight abscess turn into a week-long intensive stay as we managed multiple cat fight wounds in a very sick and septic cat. He fully recovered – but it was touch and go for a few days.

The best advice for cat fight abscesses? Avoid them in the first place by keeping your cats indoors, especially between dusk and dawn. If you witness or hear a cat fight, get your cat to the vet as soon as possible and often we can completely avoid any potential abscess and more severe illness. If you notice a painful swelling anywhere on your cat’s body, have your cat seen by a vet as soon as possible.

Flea allergy dermatitis – my biggest bugbear

It may seem a little strange to put fleas and flea allergy on a list of



Figure 1: Severe eosinophilic dermatitis in a cat causing raised red swellings on the inner thigh. These were caused by severe flea allergy dermatitis.

lumps and bumps, but we see it SO commonly that flea allergy dermatitis easily makes the list. Many, many cats are allergic to and have severe allergic reactions to fleas. These reactions often present as lumps, bumps and swellings. Flea allergy can present as red lumps on the belly of your cat as can be seen in Figure 1, one of the worst flea allergy dermatitis cases we had ever seen.



Figure 2: So called 'rodent ulcers' on the upper lips of a cat. This is due to over-grooming often due to flea allergy dermatitis.

Fleas and flea allergy can also cause lumps and erosions in and around the mouths of cats – such as so called 'rodent ulcers' – seen in this second photo (Figure 2). If you see lumps in or around the mouth of your cat, or near your cat's tail or on their belly, ensure you check for fleas.

Tumours

This is what we are all worried about: could the lump you recently found on your cat be a tumour? Cats get all types of cancers just like people, so every lump you find needs to be treated seriously. Common tumours we see in practice that present as lumps and bumps which owners notice are squamous cell carcinomas (colloquially called skin cancers), melanomas, mast cell tumours, lipomas, and mammary tumours.

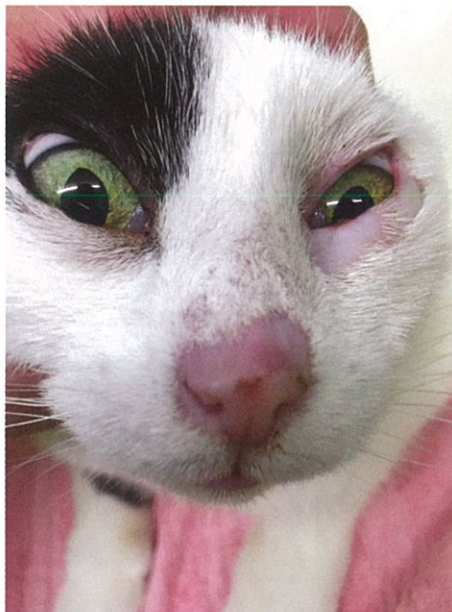


Figure 3: This cat has undergone cryotherapy (freezing) and radiation therapy on its nose and eyelids to cure it of squamous cell carcinomas caused by solar damage.

Any lump you notice on your cat has the potential to be a tumour. It is best to get it checked sooner rather than later by your veterinarian. The best chance of curing most tumours is with surgery, so the sooner we get to nasty lumps, the better.

Unfortunately, even with all the information out there today, one of the most common skin tumours we



Figure 4: A cat lays on her back showing a large swelling in the mammary gland closest to the camera. This is possibly a mammary adenocarcinoma.

see in pale skinned cats (cats with white ears and noses) is still squamous cell carcinoma — skin cancer — caused by sunburn. These commonly occur on noses and ear margins, and less commonly on the margins of eyelids. They present as scabs that come and go over months and occasionally bleed. The area in between the scabs may look a little red or ulcerated. People often mistake these scabs for dermatitis or insect bites.

Left untreated, squamous cell carcinomas can be very locally invasive and erode noses and ears away. The good news is that although they are a type of cancer, they tend not to spread anywhere else in the body. If caught early enough they respond quite well to a variety of treatments, including but not limited to cryotherapy under general anaesthesia (that is, freezing like a human GP might do to warts), surgery (for example, ear amputation) and in some cases, radiation. As always, the best way to avoid squamous cell carcinomas in pale skinned cats is to keep them indoors, especially during summer months. Filtered sunlight is generally okay, and unfortunately there is currently no safe sunscreen for use

in cats (do not use human products on your cats).

Mammary tumours are another type of lump we see too regularly in practice. In cats they tend to be very nasty and spread rapidly, both locally and through the body. Mammary tumours are commonly found in older female cats who are undesexed or were desexed later in life (that is, they were allowed to have a litter). Unfortunately the tumours are often aggressive, just like in people.

Mammary adenocarcinomas are the most common cause and require aggressive surgery often followed by intensive chemotherapy to cure. The best way to prevent these tumours is to desex your cat early; allowing your cat to have a litter will not “calm them down”! If you do find a swelling in or around the mammary area in your cat, have your vet assess your cat as soon as possible.

Weird and wonderful lumps

It may seem a little strange to call some lumps weird and wonderful, but that is the beauty of cat medicine – cats don't read the textbooks! There are many odd and rare lumps and bumps that cats can present with. Recently we saw a cat with a condition called plasma cell pododermatitis – more commonly termed 'spongy foot' because the foot looks spongy. This is not a cancer, although it can at times look like a large red fleshy cancerous growth on the foot of a cat. It is actually an immune-mediated disease in cats and usually responds very well to medication. Here are two photos of the same cat's foot, one at presentation and the other after only three weeks of medication.

The possible causes of lumps, bumps and swellings in your cat are wide and varied, as you can see from this very short list. There are lumps and swellings that cause your cat pain, like cat fight abscesses and flea allergy dermatitis; those that look nasty but in reality are not nasty at all, like spongy foot; and those that need to be taken a lot more seriously, like lumps in the

mammary glands or skin cancers on the nose and ears. Cats are such unique creatures that it is always best to follow the golden rule – if in doubt, get the lump checked out by your veterinarian.



Figure 5a: Raised red lesion on the main footpad of a cat. Biopsy revealed plasma cell pododermatitis, known colloquially between vets as 'spongy foot'.



Figure 5b: The same foot as shown in figure 5a, three weeks after treatment with doxycycline. Notice the swelling has reduced significantly and is now flat with the main foot pad.



Dr David Hughes is Principal at Concord Veterinary Hospital, an ISFM accredited cat-friendly clinic, located at 191 Concord Road, North Strathfield. Dr Hughes is interested in both veterinary medicine and surgery, and is currently undertaking further studies in ophthalmology. He has a passion for geriatric animals. Phone 9743 1715 or visit their website www.concordvets.com.au

Become a desexing advocate!

Desexing your cat will help protect them from diseases such as feline immunodeficiency virus and feline leukaemia virus. It also lowers their risk of developing cancer of the reproductive organs. And of course it prevents unwanted litters.

You can help spread this life-saving message by posting flyers on your community noticeboard or around your neighbourhood. Download flyers promoting desexing from the *Advocacy* page of our website. Visit www.catprotection.org.au and select *Support us*.

Contact our Welfare Office on 9519 7201 to find out if we can help you with discount desexing, or if you'd like us to send you some flyers.

Paralysis tick emergency care

The paralysis tick (*Ixodes holocyclus*) is a small, eight-legged tick that produces a potent toxin. This toxin causes paralysis in dogs and cats, and is potentially fatal.

The tick is found commonly on the east coast of Australia, and favours warm, humid conditions. This unfortunately means that the paralysis tick is a serious problem for pets in Sydney, so it's important to ensure that during the warmer months you are regularly checking your pet for ticks.

It may also be beneficial to have your pet on a preventative tick treatment, especially if you are in high tick-prone areas like the Northern Beaches.

Some areas of Sydney are more prone to ticks than others, but none are absolutely tick-free.

What does a paralysis tick look like?

Paralysis ticks:

- are blue to light-grey in colour
- range from approximately 2mm in diameter to over 1cm in diameter (usually the bigger ticks are engorged with blood)
- have orange forelimbs
- can feel like a small wart or lump to touch.



When found on pets they tend to have their mouthparts buried in the skin. This creates a site of inflammation, which may be painful to touch. Once the tick is removed, it tends to leave a crater.

What are the signs of tick paralysis?

Signs of tick paralysis vary depending on the length of time the tick has been on the animal, as well as the potency of the toxin, which can vary between ticks.

Signs include:

- a change in bark or meow
- increased or laboured breathing
- coughing
- excessive salivation
- vomiting or regurgitation
- weakness in the hind legs, which typically progresses to involve the forelimbs also
- reluctance to get up or walk.

Because the ability to breathe and swallow are affected, some animals will inhale saliva or food (aspirate) resulting in life-threatening pneumonia.

If you find a tick on your pet contact your vet immediately.

The toxin produced by paralysis ticks is very potent. Even when the tick is removed, most animals get worse before they get better – this is because the toxin already in the animal's body continues to circulate and attach to nerves for a period of time.

It is important to seek veterinary attention to determine whether your pet needs tick anti-toxin. Until then, there are some important steps you can take to reduce the risk of complications:

- Keep your pet calm, quiet and cool. Excitement, exercise and overheating can exacerbate illness associated with tick paralysis.
- Remove food and water. Your pet's ability to swallow may be compromised, putting your pet at risk of aspiration pneumonia.
- Search for other ticks on your pet.

How is tick paralysis treated?

Treatment of paralysis tick starts with tick anti-venom, which is administered as soon as possible by your veterinarian. Other treatments used depend on the severity of tick paralysis, but include:

- Intravenous fluids to maintain hydration
- Sedation to reduce excitement and prevent breathing difficulties
- Drugs to decrease salivation
- Antibiotics for treatment of pneumonia
- Oxygen therapy
- Anti-emetics to prevent vomiting and aspiration.

Can dogs and cats develop immunity to ticks?

Dogs and cats may develop immunity to ticks, but this requires repeated exposure to ticks – each time with the risk of paralysis and death.

Unfortunately where immunity does occur it is often very short-lived. There is currently no vaccination against the toxin produced by paralysis ticks.

Sydney Animal Hospitals' approach to tick prevention

Prevention of tick paralysis is essential to maintain the health of your pet. There is a range of excellent products available to repel and kill ticks but none is 100 per cent effective. The ideal prevention strategy depends on the lifestyle of your pet – and remember **cats and dogs are different** so you must discuss any plan with your vet to ensure it is safe.

Remember to search your pet each day for ticks – in our experience, most pets enjoy this ritual.

This article originally appeared on the website www.sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au and is reproduced here with kind permission from Sydney Animal Hospitals. Sydney Animal Hospitals was established in Sydney in 1990 and now has five practices across the greater Sydney area:

Inner West (tel: 9516 1466)
Kellyville (tel: 8883 0533)
Newtown (tel: 9519 4111)
Norwest (tel: 8883 0411)
Newport (tel: 9997 4609)

SCRATCHING POST

Hello

I adopted Cordelia ('Didi') from Cat Protection over 8 years ago. She enjoys the good life and has since moved to a nice townhouse in the Shire.

She is spoilt, obviously loves her food (especially prawns), and is happy and healthy.

I think she will be 11 this year on her birthday.

Avril



Cordelia

Dear all

As you can see, little Abby (tortie and white) and Coco (black and white) have settled in well. They sleep together, play together and spend lots of time with us — on our laps, curled up on the bed, or staying nearby. They are very social and have enjoyed meeting our dinner guests and friends.

The other day it was quiet and I went to see where they were. I found both in the bathtub, watching the water drip as I had not completely turned off the faucet. They sleep together in their bed in our large master bathroom (with scratching post, toys, litter box, water, etc.) We put them to bed around 11 or 12 and feed them and let them out around 7am. This is working really well, so we will continue until they are older.

I would love to acknowledge the great work you are all doing. We are very appreciative of your efforts and promise to look after our girls and keep you updated from time to time. Fortunately we have lots of friends who are animal lovers, so they understand that pets are really part of the family.
Carol & Michael

Hi

Here are some photos of Bella with her new family.

Regards

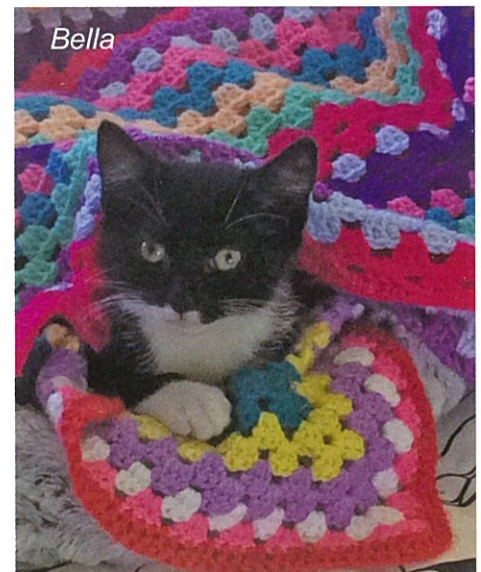
Margaret & Jeff



Abby & Coco



Bella



Bella

SCRATCHING POST



Jeff

Hi there

I thought I would share the story of how I met Jeff. My husband and I had talked about getting a pet but up until this point the answer had always been no. Until one day he said yes. I knew I wanted to get a rescue pet, as they are the best kind and so I came into Cat Protection.

The staff were so helpful, friendly and patient with me. I had never owned a cat and I did my own research but it was great to talk through my concerns with the very knowledgeable staff. It took a few visits and a lot of time in the kitten play area but we found the one.

I thought I wanted a female, dark coloured kitten. But a beautiful white/tabby, 12 week old male chose us. He was so quiet and demure when we met him at Cat Protection, but when we got him home it was a whole other story.

Jeff has kept us on our toes. He is loving and playful. He is so sociable and loves having all of our friends over for more people to play fetch with.

We love him very much and are so happy that this little stray came our way. We can't thank Cat Protection enough for helping all of the cats and kittens find the right home, and for helping us find our Jeff.

Keep up the good work!

With great thanks
Skye, Dan & Jeff

Hi

I adopted two kittens and named them Jasper and Shellie. Jasper is the Turkish Van (ginger and white) and Shellie is the tortie. They were both extremely comfortable in their new forever home within minutes.

They have also been best friends from the first day. Love them so much, they are both very friendly and loving.

Thanks

Rebecca



Jasper & Shellie

SCRATCHING POST

Hello Cat Protection!

Here's an update on our adopted little tabby kitten. We decided to call him Poncho.

He's a very happy boy and loves galloping around the apartment, eating raw chicken wings and climbing his huge scratching post.

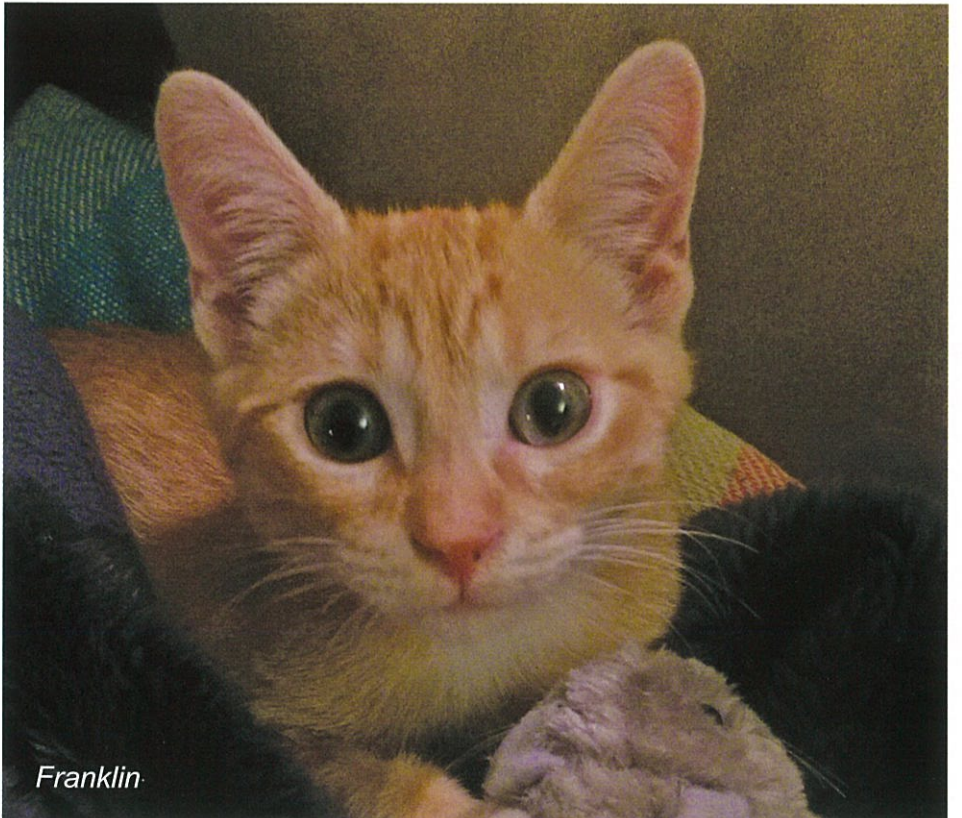
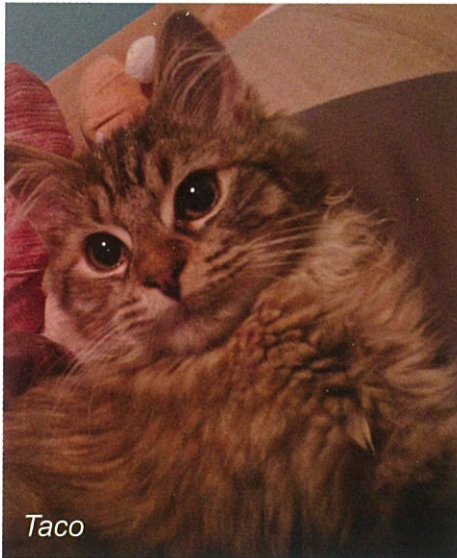
Jana & Toby xx

Hi there

Taco has settled in well and likes to sleep on her fellow humans, ha ha! She's just a bit cheeky but is eating well and playing well.

She is a little cutie and we love having her around! Thanks for letting us adopt her! ☺

Allen & Julie



Hi guys

We just wanted to send you a few cute pics of our newest favourite family member, Franklin! He is settling in so well and everyone absolutely adores him. He's extremely playful but also very affectionate.

Thanks so much, we couldn't be happier ☺

Love

Jules & Josh

SCRATCHING POST

Hi 😊

Here are some photos of Flo and Macy. They are best friends and you can rarely find them apart! Macy is the grey one and Flo is the naughty tortie!

Regards

Eva

Hello

This is Duke about 4.6 years after we got him with his sister Daisy. They came as a double treat! They are now a family unit with a Siamese ex-stray who we trapped shortly after getting the two 'D's'. So they all grew up as kittens together.

Duke is now a very big and beautiful cat! He's the 'Lion King' in the household, very loving and lazy. Still can't resist a bag or box! He's on my lap as I write this.

Life would not be life without our fur babies!

Thank you for the advice on Simon (the Siamese) regarding settling him in, which worked a treat; he's now a totally lovable, happily neurotic Siamese.

Greg



Hello Cat Protection!

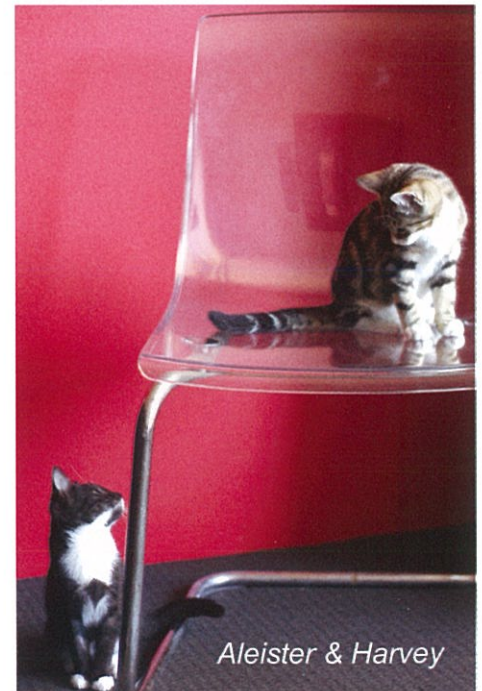
Here is an update on our two kittens: the black and white kitten we have named Aleister and his brother is called Harvey. Both boys have settled into our home very well and have certainly made it their own!

We have had to make some changes around our house, like hiding any visible power cords, swiftly closing the front door when we come in and making sure the washing machine door is always closed (Harvey loves to jump on in). They are very energetic at times (especially at night after dinner) but give the most rewarding cuddles as they purr away on our laps! It certainly makes up for all the craziness.

We are really happy with how they have settled in and feel we have bonded strongly with them and vice versa. 😊

Kind regards

Lara & Matt



SCRATCHING POST

Delilah



Dear Cat Protection

Update on Delilah, also called Missy D. She is a very timid little girl and still a little unsure but extremely inquisitive and growing in confidence every day. She is incredibly gentle and really enjoys interaction in her space.

Every day I see changes, she is learning to play, exploring, talking and trusting. She is also seeking more time and interaction with me. Delilah is a very different soul to my mate Tommy who I miss very much, but she has helped immensely to heal my heart.

For others unsure on sharing time with a timid cat, it has been very rewarding to see the changes and personality grow. Missy D is cared for and I'm enjoying having her here.

Thanks for your advice and information on Delilah's past, it has helped me to understand what she needs to learn about normality.

Kind regards

Donna

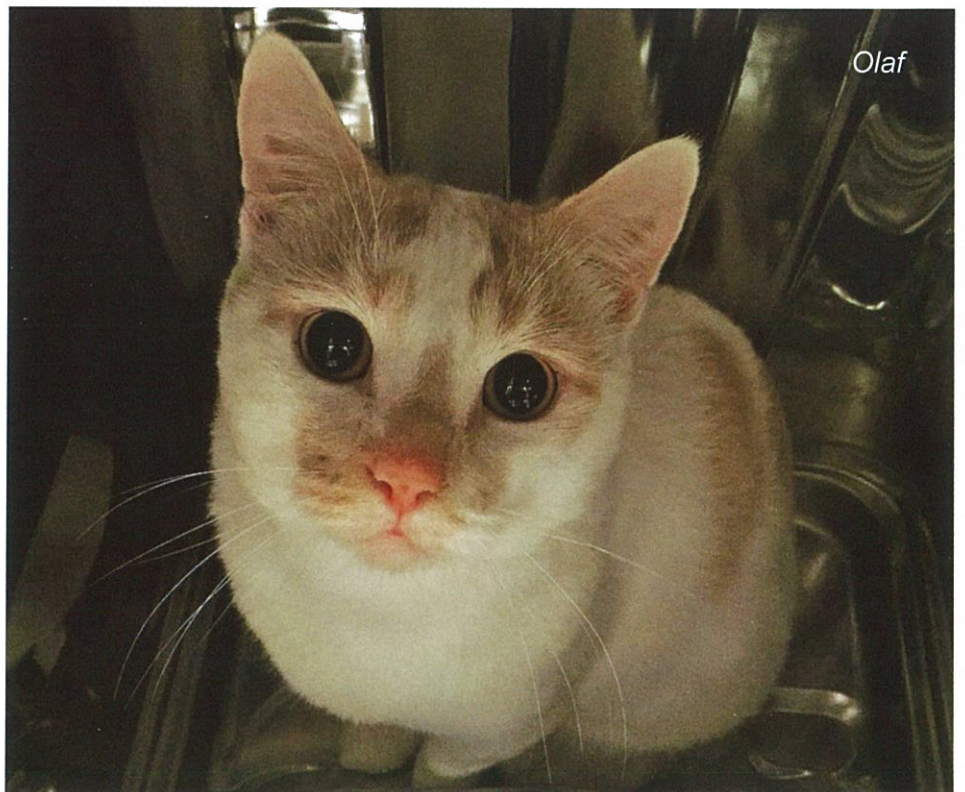
Hi there

I thought I would give you guys an update on Olaf (formerly known as GC). Since coming into our house he has settled in really well. He is an extremely affectionate cat with some very interesting quirks that make us laugh every day. He loves to steal bread and vegetables when we aren't paying attention, he plays fetch with his mouse, and loves to spend time in the dishwasher when we are emptying it.

He sleeps at the foot of our bed and is a very punctual alarm clock in the mornings. We are really glad that you guys gave us the opportunity to add this guy to our family!

Erik

Olaf



SCRATCHING POST



Hi

I adopted Gizmo, my domestic medium haired tabby who was born with his siblings in a fruit shop.

It's been incredible getting to know his little ways and what he likes. He's very affectionate and sociable, extremely inquisitive around new people. Playful at night is an understatement. He's already found a few hiding spots in the apartment, one of which is the inside of my sofa!!

He is very much loved and cared for and has been an incredible addition to the family!!

Kind regards

Charlotte



Hi there

We adopted Ophelia from Cat Protection in May 2014 and she fitted in with our little family right away; she's a complete dork just like us. We absolutely adore her ♥

Best regards

Cindy



Hi

Just wanted to send you an updated photo of beautiful Tinker Bell for you to see she is very much loved and completely content.

Many times she is sleeping on the TV unit in front of the TV and dreaming of starring in *Cats*, LOL.

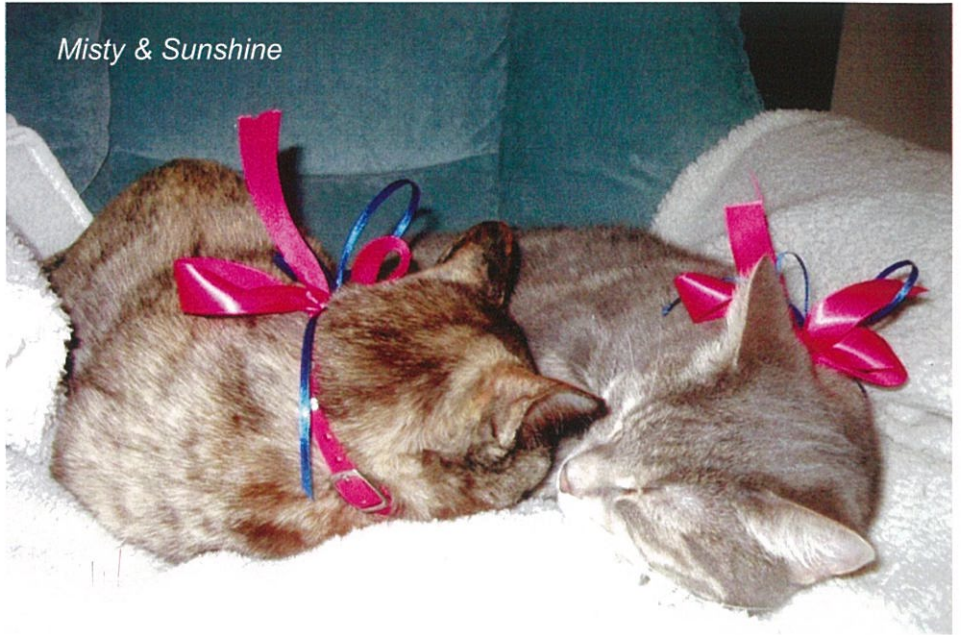
Regards

Diana

SCRATCHING POST



Misty



Misty & Sunshine

Dear Kristina

I brought Misty to her forever loving home to share with Sunshine and myself in April.

She is such a sweet, quiet, little girl, very shy and quite secretive, but when she comes out to play with Sunshine, she really knows how to land on her four beautiful paws. She and Sunshine have the best of times playing chasings and have become loving feline sisters.

Misty really enjoys sunning herself, as does Sunshine, in their cat-park where they bliss out together enjoying the fresh air. Misty and Sunshine also enjoy special times cuddling up together on a chair, where they happily groom one another, and then curl up to sleep.

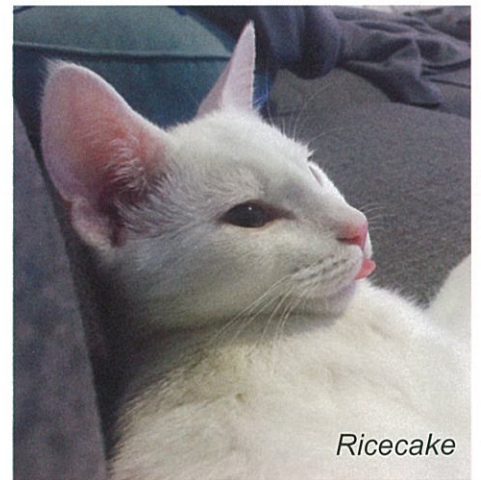
Misty has a very cute habit of putting her left front paw up in the air very delicately, and is very good

at skipping. In tune with her quiet, retiring nature, she has a very quiet, high-pitched meow. I just love it when she talks to me with her special little greeting.

Best of all, Misty seems happy in her forever loving home. She and Sunshine are a wonderful pair together, and I am totally blessed by my two gorgeous cats.

Thank you, Cat Protection, and especially to Annabella, Vanessa and Izzy for your patience and kindness in helping with Misty's adoption. We all send our love, and many purrs from my two precious felines!

Wendy, Sunshine & Misty xxxooo



Ricecake

Hi Cat Protection

Thank you guys for always being so patient and nicely answering all the questions from a first time pet owner.

Thanks to the workshop in May and all the informative brochures, Ricecake is happily living with us. 😊

Cheers

Sharon & Winston

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 Tel: 9557 4818



IN MEMORIAM

Gingy

'Gingy' came to us as a three week old foster kitten in February 2012. He had been found all alone at a bus stop and surrendered to Cat Protection. Taking care of such a young kitten can sometimes be difficult, as at such a young age, they really just need their mum! However, from the moment he arrived, small enough to sit in one hand, the little kitten thrived. He required bottle feeding for the next couple of weeks, every few hours, night and day, before he was able to take solid food. It took some coaxing to get him to eat 'real' food — he loved his bottle, even when he was really too big for it. He would see us preparing to bottle-feed some other, younger foster kittens and would come running, barging the babies out of the way to get to the bottle first!

Our only (permanent) fur-baby at the time, Tori, took Gingy under his wing and loved him from day one. Gingy worshipped the ground Tori walked on, and deciding that we just couldn't break them up, we formally adopted Gingy and they remained best friends.



He was diagnosed with a heart murmur early on, however, after a few visits to the vet and finally a feline paediatric cardiologist, his heart murmur was downgraded and we were given the good news that he was in excellent health and would not require any treatment. We looked forward to spending the next 20 or so years together!!

However, sadly on 5 November 2016, just shy of his 5th birthday, Gingy died suddenly, asleep in his favourite spot in the sun. Our home is just not the same without our sweet boy, and we will remember and miss him always. Thank you to Cat Protection for providing Gingy — and so many cats like him — with a safe and happy forever home.

Craig, Pharyn, Piper, Tori & Walter

Lizzie

1997-2015

Lizzie came to live with me in 2008 when my dear sister passed away from cancer.

Lizzie was also a sister to one of my furkids. They were born in September '97.

Lizzie was a feisty old girl with a big personality. Loved greeting all visitors waiting for a pat and a scratch, but you had to be alert, she did tend to bite when she had had enough!

She got on well with the other house cats, and loved to snuggle in bed with me.



I know she will now be enjoying being with her mum, getting spoilt again with fresh prawns and chicken.

Saying goodbye was very sad, we all miss her.

Joan



Hyena

It was with great sadness and a heavy heart that we said goodbye to Hyena on 1 September 2016. With all the care, love and attention from us and our vets, her little body couldn't cope with the disease. Unfortunately, we are still unsure of what triggered her condition.

Hyena was an exceptional living being. Always present to support us and care for us. She was the fire of the house, happy and gentle.

We adopted her in May 2015, she was twenty months old. And she changed our lives. She was lonely as we were working a lot, so we brought her a companion, her BFF, Pantoufle. For weeks after we introduced Pantoufle to his new environment, Hyena kept on thanking us for our kindness. She was so grateful to have a buddy to play with! Running, chasing each other, sharing a meal, play-fighting, getting petted, grooming each other ... What a beautiful life!

Unfortunately, Hyena was diagnosed with severe kidney failure. We know now that she is at peace and free from her suffering.

Our 3 year old beautiful tortie will always be in our hearts and we are so grateful we crossed paths and had the opportunity to share some extraordinary moments together.

Hyena, you will be missed.

Sandrine & Tim



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