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cataffairs



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President's Report

As cat lovers, we know our feline friends have the dubious reputation of being aloof, solitary animals. Contrary to this stereotype, it has struck me this month that the old adage 'it takes a village to raise a child', is just as true of cats as it is of people. For me, no story better exemplifies this than that of Bella. Members may remember Bella from our appeal in the autumn issue of *Cat Affairs*. Bella's is a story of a stray cat, sick and in pain who was found and taken in by concerned members of the public. When those people reached out for support they made contact with Cat Protection, and our highly trained and experienced feline specialists ensured Bella received the best possible care. This included double eye removal surgery to correct her painful eye problems. During her recovery she enjoyed all the individualised attention necessary to support her as she adjusted to life without sight, which she has taken to very well.

When we reached out to you, our community of members and donors, the response was resounding. Like all of the cats we help, Bella has found her way to health and security through the joint effort of the 'village' which makes up the Cat Protection community. To all those who gave generously in response to Bella's story: thank you! Your generosity and ongoing support allows Cat Protection to continue to care for Bella, and other cats, for as long as it takes to find the best possible responsible and loving home.

Cat Protection is an organisation which is always looking for new and innovative ways to care for our cats and reach out to our members. In this issue you will read about one of the ways in which we are achieving this. Thanks to the generosity of recent bequests, we could afford to invest in an exciting new membership and cattery management system. This development will help to facilitate important feline shelter health research as well as improving our administrative systems.

With a society such as ours, strength lies in the harmonious coming together of passionate and talented individuals. On behalf of all members of Cat Protection, it is my happy duty to welcome two new directors to our Board – Guy Farrands and Michael Madani. I am confident that each will bring their own unique and valuable perspectives to the Board. Guy has over 30 years' experience in commercial, retail, industrial, residential and retirement class property, both in Australia and internationally. Michael is an actuarial and data analyst with Macquarie Bank. A warm welcome to Guy and Mike!

Kaye Isbister

President



Cover photograph
CPS kitten
by Carol Hanna

Cat flu

By Dr Maddie Roberts BVSc (Hons1)

'Cat flu' is a common feline disease involving the upper respiratory tract, caused by several different infectious agents. Signs can be mild, from sneezing, nasal discharge or conjunctivitis (red, watery eyes), to more severe such as loss of appetite, ulceration of the mouth or eyes and fevers. Young, geriatric, those with reduced immune systems or cats who haven't been vaccinated are more likely to be affected, so it is important to have an understanding of the disease and strategies to minimise infection and spread.

Cat flu is caused by one of two viruses – Feline Calicivirus (FCV) or Feline Herpes Virus-1 (FHV1). These viruses have their own unique strategies to invade, replicate and survive in the host. Bacteria can also be involved leading to progression of disease and a worsening of signs.

What are the signs of cat flu?

Signs of cat flu are similar to the signs of the flu or cold in people. Common signs include sneezing, discharge from the nose and eyes (from clear, but may become discoloured if secondary bacterial infections develop), increases in salivation or dribbling, changes in behaviour including depression, and lethargy, a loss of appetite, changes in voice and developing a temperature. Viral pneumonia can occur with FCV and FHV1, however is rare. A secondary bacterial infection may develop.

Feline Calicivirus

The majority of cat flu is caused by FCV, a virus that loves to linger, and can be present in the environment for several weeks. This virus causes a less severe form of cat flu. Signs more commonly associated with FCV include ulcerations in the mouth (tongue, gums, roof of mouth), and nasal and ocular discharge. Some strains of the virus can cause joint pain and lameness in kittens, and there have been reports of systemic (whole body) disease in severe cases.

Feline Herpes Virus 1

FHV1 loves epithelial cells (cells on the surface), and over 80 per cent of cats will develop a life long infection. The virus infects the epithelial cells of the upper respiratory tract (from the nose to upper trachea, or wind pipe) and eyes. The virus causes rhinitis (irritation and inflammation of the insides of the nose), which can lead to a cat becoming a 'chronic snuffler'. Cats can also develop severe signs involving the eye such as conjunctivitis, discharge, ulceration of the eye and even dry eye. Irritation to skin over the nose may also occur. This virus is very fragile in the environment, however it

has the ability to 'hide' from the cat's immune system, creating a life-long carrier state.

Bacterial causes of cat flu

Bacteria including *Chlamydomphila felis*, *Bordatella bronchiseptica* and *Mycoplasma* sp. can contribute to cat flu, causing a progression of disease. Cats infected with *Bordatella* may develop disease to the lower airways, resulting in worsening of clinical signs. This may present as discharges changing in colour or consistency (generally becoming thicker and darker), coughing, increased respiration and difficulty breathing.

How is cat flu spread?

FCV and FHV are spread through secretions from the nose, eye and mouth. These secretions can then enter the cat by the following means:

- 1. Direct contact:** Direct contact with an infected cat, showing signs of flu (usually by a cat sneezing) or contact with a 'carrier cat' who is not currently showing signs of disease but is shedding the virus (often during times of stress)
- 2. Indirect:** Contact with a contaminated surface (known as a fomite) including water bowls, clothing, bedding or even other people. This is the most important part of cat flu prevention and management, as the viruses can remain in the environment for several weeks!

Who is most at risk?

With any infectious disease, those with a naïve or weakened immune system are most likely to be affected. This includes young kittens, old cats and cats with severe suppression of the immune system, such as those infected with Feline Leukaemia Virus and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus. Certain medications such as corticosteroids (e.g. prednisolone) can also reduce a cat's immune system and put them at risk of developing disease.

Help! I think my cat has the flu! What do I do now?

The first step is to take a deep breath and relax – a calm approach is key to managing an unwell cat. An appointment with your veterinarian is the first point of call. Here your vet will ask you questions about your cat's history (vaccination history, where your cat came from and whether they have other diseases) and environment (how many cats are at home, does your cat have access to other cats), duration of signs as well as completing a thorough physical examination. While a diagnosis is primarily made on history and clinical signs, your veterinarian may offer to take a swab of secretions from the mouth, nose and/or eyes. This swab



Fizz with the flu (herpes)

is sent to a laboratory where genetic tests are carried out to determine the presence of a causative virus. Complicating bacterial disease is also detected through swab analysis, or a bacterial culture.

What treatment options are available?

Treatment predominantly revolves around supportive care for your cat. This involves ensuring your cat is adequately hydrated and their nutritional needs are met. Offering your cat bland, warmed food may help to entice them to eat. In cats who are clinically dehydrated, your veterinarian may recommend admitting your cat to hospital and replacing lost fluids through an intravenous drip. If your cat is persistently inappetent, assisted feeding may be required. Gently wiping away discharges with a non-irritant solution (such as saline, ask your veterinarian for advice) and grooming your cat while unwell are also recommended. In order to help breakdown mucus, steam therapy or nebulisation may be recommended.

Antiviral treatments for FHV1 are being developed and may be recommended for your cat. Drugs to stimulate the appetite and reduce the thickness of mucous secretions may also be dispensed. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses, however may be recommended if a secondary bacterial infection is identified, on the basis of clinical signs or test results.

Unfortunately, there are no treatments available to stop a cat being a carrier of the disease. All cats that have had the flu need to be considered potential carriers, and it is prudent to inform people who care for your cat so they can minimise stress and potential exposure to others.

How can I prevent disease?

There is no guaranteed way of preventing cat flu, however vaccinating cats against FCV and FHV1 will reduce the severity and duration of disease. As with any virus, there are many different strains that are constantly evolving to adapt to new conditions. The vaccination will help stimulate the immune system to help fight the viruses should they encounter them. FCV and FHV1 are covered in the core 'F3' vaccine offered at vet clinics. This vaccine is administered as a kitten vaccination series, and then booster vaccines are

required. Discussing your cat's environment and needs will help to determine the best vaccination schedule for your cat.

In multi-cat households, vaccination alone may not control the disease. Isolating a cat when they show signs suggestive of cat flu and providing them with their own bedding, litter and food bowls are recommended. New arrivals should be quarantined for 7 to 10 days, and kittens should be isolated from other cats until they are vaccinated. It is important to remember that some viruses, in particular FCV can survive for a long period in the environment and on surfaces, so it is important to use an appropriate disinfectant. Ask your veterinarian for advice on a suitable disinfectant product (that isn't harmful to cats) to use to help remove any viral particles.

Identifying and reducing stressors for individual cats will help to minimise disease. Chronic stress results in high levels of cortisol circulating through the bloodstream, dampening the immune system. This means normal defence mechanisms are reduced and latent infections, such as FHV, may reactivate. Your cat may develop clinical signs, or they may just 'shed' the virus, having the ability to pass the disease on to others. Naturalceuticals, such as lysine have reported in cats with flu as an adjunctive therapy. It has been demonstrated to limit replication of the FHV, however there are variable results in field studies.

Some tips to ensure a stress-free and healthy cat:

- Gradually introduce change and know signs of stress in your cat (signs can be vague but may include becoming withdrawn, changes in eating and drinking, restlessness, over-grooming, soiling in the house etc)
- Provide your cat with 'safe places' – think three dimensionally – cats like to feel warm and secluded, as well as elevated
- Do not be afraid to remove or separate your cat from a stressor (such as a houseguest or another pet)
- Preventative healthcare is important – a balanced diet is essential
- Provide your cat with plenty of environmental enrichment
- Consider using pheromone products such as Feliway to help your cat manage potential stressful events.

Dr Maddie Roberts is currently undertaking an internship at Davies Veterinary Specialists, London. Prior to this she worked at Mosman Veterinary Hospital. Maddie's interests include feline medicine, in particular lower airway disease, cardiology and ophthalmology. Maddie enjoys keeping in touch with the CPS and contributing to the magazine.



Letter to the Editor

The Editor,

Cat Affairs 15/4/2016

I write in response to your article in Cat Affairs Autumn 2016, The Debate about Feral Cats, but first I would like to comment on your first article the title of which poses a question. Do Cats Suffer from Dementia? Absolutely. I found that vitamin B1 or vitamin B complex helped particularly for those cats who had a predilection for some brands of tinned fish imported from SE Asia. It is important for the client to be counselled to generate patience, understanding and empathy. Liberally scatter litter trays about the house and clean them after first use. Keep your old cat out of an unfenced front yard even if it is the cat's favourite spot to sun itself. I have seen too many old cats torn to pieces in their front yards by dogs because they are stiff sore, slow, poor of hearing and vision.

I cannot offer any scientific references on which to base my opinions, only my own conviction based on my reading, travel and my own observations, that cats get a very bad and unwarranted press that they do not deserve. I think that the estimates of their numbers and their impact on wildlife are grossly exaggerated. A lot of negative opinion is emotive, irrational and driven by ailurophobia. The suggestion by Wallach and Ramp that the feral cat should be called the Australian Wild Cat resonated with me. After all, the Australian Wild Dog, the Dingo, is generally believed to have been introduced to Australia only 4000 to 5000 years ago ie after Australia and New Guinea were separated by rising sea levels. In other words the dingo arrived by some floatation device, and is clearly related to the Singing Dog of New Guinea and other breeds in SE Asia.

I have often thought that the black, tough, nuggetty, wire-haired wild pig that we see in the deserts and the north should be called the Australian Wild Pig. I worked in the Torres Straits in the 1960s and saw NG lakatois out to sea in Australian territorial waters. HMS Bramble sent to the Torres Straits by the British Admiralty to survey the Straits in the 1850s observed the interaction of the NG people and the Aboriginal people of Cape York Peninsula. Other navigators before and after them observed the same phenomenon. Indeed craft from NG were seen as far south as Princess Charlotte Bay in early colonial times. I think the arrival of the Europeans halted an imminent wave of immigration that would have displaced our Indigenous people with Melanesians, introduced the bow and arrow and new animal and plant species amongst other things. The point I am suggesting is that the Australian Wild Pig, like the Australian Wild Dog was here before European settlement. Of course European pigs did escape from the early colonists and interbreed but I think that the crocodiles of northern Australia had been feasting on the Australian Wild Pig for centuries before this happened.

The Dutch VOC (East India Company) lost more than 100 ships on the Australian coast. Some of these vessels were packed with people and animals. The most famous, the Batavia that wrecked in 1629 had an official complement of 341 people. In 1606 Torres passed through the Torres Straits but 100 years before the Dutch the Portuguese had come. They had established their first permanent settlement on Timor, a few days sail from Australia, as early as 1509. By 1510 they had navigated the NG coastline. They lost their ships on our coast too, attested to by the odd Portuguese artefact that has been pulled from Australian mud but have been studiously ignored by our historians so as not to disturb the official dogma.

The Macassans have been visiting our coastline for centuries. The Portuguese could not have not noticed this annual migration of the praus that followed the North West Monsoons

south, revictualling at Timor, and returning later on the South East trades when the wind changed direction. As the local name for Australia was Marege, Land of Gold, the Portuguese would have investigated, particularly when you consider that half their crews died on the outward voyage so they had to press the locals to man their ships for the return voyage to Portugal. Today groves of tamarind tree on the northern coastline, which they introduced to Australia, indicate the presence of their semi-permanent camps. They left their genes behind, good and bad (think MJD syndrome) a lingua franca (Malay which was widely used in colonial times by the new European arrivals) various improved technologies (iron, rope, cloth, canes etc) diseases (yaws etc) influenced Aboriginal art and culture and who knows what else?. They took some people away, leaving Aboriginal descendants living in Indonesia who can trace their links to Arnhem Land to this day. Additionally the seas brought an annual bounty washed up on the shores by wind and tide to the appreciation of the local inhabitants. (Donald Thompson discovered the East Arnhem Land people had made a totem of a square Dutch gin bottle that had arrived on the tide).

The Chinese might have come. Ancient Chinese artefacts have been found in Darwin. With the domination of the Indonesian archipelago by the Dutch they prevented further Chinese penetration and made them trade at the Port of Makassar so they could levy a duty on the main product gathered by the Macassan praus – beche-de-mer.

In 1802/3 when Flinders circumnavigated Australia he was accompanied by his pet cat Trim. Trim was born on board a ship that was docked next to his in England as they were preparing to sail to the antipodes. On his voyage Flinders discovered a Macassan fleet off the northern Australian coast. One of Flinders' crew could speak Malay so the exchange was congenial. Hitherto the British Admiralty was ignorant of this trade in waters claimed by the British Crown since 1770. I might mention at this juncture that Cook wasn't the first Englishman to visit our shores. In 1688 William Dampier landed on the WA coast and again in 1699. As early as 1622 the first English feet trod Australian soil when the vessel Trail with 143 souls aboard, out of Plymouth en route for Batavia, was shipwrecked on the west coast. With regards to Trim, ships cats were an essential complement on vessels, because of all the vermin the ships carried. The practice of carrying ships cats goes back thousands of years. I travelled on a pearling lugger in 1969 that was absolutely infested with rats, but unfortunately we did not have a cat aboard. The pearling luggers became so infested with vermin that they were sunk on sand banks to try to rid the vessel of them.

The point I am suggesting is that with all this seafaring traffic that has been going on for thousands of years touching on Australian shores that brought our indigenous inhabitants, the Australian Wild Dog and by my definition the Australian Wild Pig and other plants and animals, and all the shipwrecks, that the Australian Wild Cat, a Wallach and Ramp definition, has been part of the Australian ecosystem well before 1788. We have acknowledged that terra nullius is a fiction so perhaps we should extend the same courtesy to cats. When the early explorers penetrated the remotest parts of Australia they discovered that cats had preceded them. They were an important part of the Aboriginal diet (in fact some groups had made the cat a totem) and indeed they are still hunted in some remote communities to this day. The suggestion that cats had not been there forever caused the Aboriginal people to react with indignation.

Paul Waters

Life Member and retired veterinarian

NSW Pet Registry online

It is fair to say that for many new cat owners registering their cat was a bureaucratic nightmare. First up, off to the vet or authorised identifier with your new kitten to have the microchip implanted. Then a trip to the council with your carbon-copy paper form, that has the microchip number and ownership information, to pay the registration fee during business hours. (Of course, not if you adopted from Cat Protection in the past year where we did all this for you!)

The great news is that now for the first time in NSW you can register your feline friends online at the newly launched NSW Pet Registry (petregistry.nsw.gov.au).

"Now you won't have to take time off work to go to the council," says Vicky Longley, Principal Project Officer at the Office of Local Government. "You can do it all online from your computer or mobile device".

Vicky says that, as usual cats and kittens will be microchipped by the vet or authorised identifier, but now your pet's microchip information will be immediately added to the register online.

Rather than taking the paperwork to the council, cat owners can now log on to the NSW Pet Registry at petregistry.nsw.gov.au, create a profile, add address and contact details, link pets to your profile using your pet's microchip number and pay the one-off lifetime registration fee.



"Our team has been developing the Pet Registry to honour the election commitment made by NSW Government to be ready in July 2016," she says, "so that the process of pet registration is easier and that lost cats can be returned home."

Moving house

Ms Longley says that many people move from residence to residence and cats' address details were rarely updated because of the lengthy paper-based process involved.

"People can now log on to the petregistry.nsw.gov.au and change their home address easily. If you've got up-to-date details in there, it will show your current contact details so you and your pet can be quickly reunited," Ms Longley says.

Similarly, she says that if you acquire a new pet who has been registered to a previous owner, it will be easy for the old owner to transfer the cat to the new owner online.

Desex your cat

- The Government encourages pet owners to desex kittens at an early age. This helps to ensure pets stay healthy, are well behaved and do not have unwanted litters.
- Discounted registration fees for desexed pets helps encourage owners to have their cat desexed.
- From July 2016 the discounted registration fee will be available to owners who desex their cat before the cat reached 4 months.
- Vets will update the register when a pet is desexed. Vets can also update the register if they believe that a pet should not be desexed yet for medical reasons.

Microchip and register your cat

- Cats and dogs must be microchipped before sale or by 12 weeks of age, whichever happens first.
- Pet owners then make an online profile so their contact details are available and up-to-date if their pet is lost, stolen or injured. Feline friends with microchips can be scanned to return them to their owner.
- Registration fees can be paid online on the NSW Pet Registry website or at your local council.
- Current registration fees for cats and dogs are available at www.olg.nsw.gov.au.

CAT PROTECTION DIARY

Telstra store Newtown, our new community partner

We are delighted to announce our community partnership with Telstra store Newtown. They will be supporting us not only by raising funds, but also by raising awareness of our important work, with some fabulous in-store initiatives.

They are currently running a promotion called 'Our Bundles support Your Bundles'. When you visit Telstra store Newtown, mention our name, and purchase a Medium, Large or Extra Large landline and internet data bundle, they will donate \$25 to Cat Protection. If you happen to pass their King Street store between June and September this year, you will notice a window decal advertising this great offer which features one of very own, very cuddly kittens! Thank you so much to our volunteer photographer Mark for capturing this little bundle of joy.

The partnership continues in-store, with a coin collection box at the counter featuring dollar handles to let Telstra store Newtown customers know how their donation will make a difference. There will also be a community corner set up in-store where customers and supporters can drop off newspapers and used, freshly laundered linen which are very handy when you're in the business of sheltering cats!

They will also be kindly donating prizes for our raffles and sponsoring the refreshments for our November Open Day.



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IT'S HOW
WE CONNECT 

Your cat might be telling you something – very important

Cat Protection was amazed to hear this story from one of our members, Debbie, who wanted to share it in case it could help others. Her beautiful and devoted cat Bisou was adopted from Cat Protection. We've never been so proud of one of our graduates!



Bisou

There is something I would like to share with you in the hope it may reduce stress for kitties and assist their human co-habitors, mums & dads.

About April last year, Bisou was acting distressed and started peeing on the bed. This is something she had never done in seven years. The first time she did it she tapped me on my arm beforehand, and each time she peed on the bed, it was in my presence. She did not seem unwell but I was very worried about her and took her to see the lovely vet Julia at Bondi Junction Vets on Ebley St who noted all of this down.

She examined Bisou and said she seemed in good health. She was fascinated by the fact that nothing had changed in our living arrangements and that she always wanted to let me know she was doing, as though she was trying to tell me something. There was no obvious explanation for the behaviour.

I then had to go away so had a friend stay over to look after Bisou. Not once in my absence did she toilet anywhere but her litter tray.

It transpires that it was me who had the health problem. Shortly after Bisou's strange behaviour, I was diagnosed with breast cancer and the arm she tapped was the problem side!

Since my surgery to remove the cancer, she was straight back to her normal self. I truly believe that she was both alerting me to a problem and marking her territory in an attempt to ward off this nasty threat.

I am doing very well, still receiving plenty of treatment but in good hands.

I thought I would share this information with you as it may help vets or others faced with a situation like this as to recommending that the owner or someone else in the family may in fact need a health check!

We have read about dogs being trained to detect cancer so while Bisou's story seems amazing, it is not far-fetched. We agree with Deb that if your cat is behaving strangely and no reason can be found in the cat's health or environment, it is definitely worth looking for some human reasons, especially if the behavior is highly specific such as Bisou's.

Congratulations clever and beautiful Bisou on your great efforts to warn your mum, and all our very best wishes to you Deb, on a full and speedy recovery.

CAT PROTECTION DIARY

New membership management system

Hello fellow cat lovers. My name is Carol and I'm the Community Development Officer here at Cat Protection. Some of you may have received a thank you card or letter from me, or spoken to me about your membership or donation. For those who I haven't met yet, hello!

I'm thrilled to be here and a part of the Cat Protection family. I've always been a cat lover (and animal lover in general) and have been working for charities for a long time. My lovely feline flatmate Perrin (who turns 10 this September) is the love of my life!

I started at Cat Protection in June last year and have been busily working on an exciting project that will revolutionise the way that we care for our cats and how we will be able to communicate with you, our wonderful members.

Cat Protection will be implementing a database system called Salesforce. Salesforce will allow Cat Protection to upgrade the way we currently do things, most importantly, how we operate.

This new software will enable us to ensure accurate data capture and ease of reporting to measure key issues and improve practices. This cattery software is being specially designed for us to cater for our unique needs, ensuring that we fulfil our best-practice shelter goals.

Salesforce will also allow us to have our membership and donation systems in one place and will allow us to streamline our processes, make us more efficient and reduce our use of paper.

What does this mean for you, our members? A few different things. You will be hearing more from me (by email or post) in the next couple of months. I would like to get to know you, and hear how you came to be a member of Cat Protection. I would also like to know how you would like to hear from us (for example, by email or by post) and what kind of things you're interested in hearing about from us.

You might have noticed that there isn't a membership renewal form in this issue of *Cat Affairs*. Previously, all membership renewals (except for Life Members, naturally!) were due at the end of Cat Protection's financial year. However, we would like to make the process of renewing membership easier and more personal.

Depending on when you joined Cat Protection (or last renewed your membership) you will receive an email or letter to remind you that it is time for you to renew.

In the next few weeks (if you haven't heard from us already) we will be contacting you directly to let you know if your membership is up for renewal.

If you are not sure whether your membership has expired and you would like to renew it; or you

would like to find out when it is due to expire; or you would like to update your details (or just want to say hello); please feel free to call 9519 7201 or email carol@catprotection.org.au. We can process your membership payment over the phone or you can also renew online through our website at www.catprotection.org.au – go to 'Support Us' and then 'Membership'.

Importantly, we still have our no-harassment fundraising policy. We will not be bombarding you with appeals or fundraising requests. This upgrade for us is simply a better way to do business, share information with you, and care for our beloved cats and kittens.

This is very exciting for all of us and I look forward to getting to know you all better.

Carol



Launch of Cat Protection Craft Club

Cat Protection's Craft Club was launched at a booked-out 'crafternoon' on Saturday 18 June. Craft Club is a great way for those who are handy with knitting needles, crochet hooks or sewing machines to get involved and help out the beautiful feline residents of Cat Protection. You can make special cat toys, blankets and beds from patterns we provide.

If you wish to join future Craft Club events please call our office on 9519 7201 between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday to register your interest.

If you can't attend in person, do not fear! You can still participate in Craft Club by picking up a pattern from our Adoption Centre or from our website, and getting crafty for the cats on your own, in the company of a few friends, or maybe even with your cat!

SCRATCHING POST

Hi all

Just wanted to send this gorgeous pic and let you know how these two cuties are travelling. My daughter Lauren and I came in last Tuesday in desperate hope of adopting a kitten and were blessed with finding the perfect pair of love in these two 14 weeks-old kittens. We named the male 'Ziggy' (because Lauren loves David Bowie) and the female is Portia.

They made the trip home to Campbelltown with ease and immediately settled into their new home. Both are extremely affectionate and gentle, however they love to 'attack' each other, in play, of course. They are the greatest of mates and are very social. They love attention and happily lap up the loving from us and any visitors we have.

They have great appetites and seem to have settled into a wonderful routine. Portia is the most adventurous and likes to take the lead. Ziggy likes to stay within visual range of Portia and if she ventures around the house without him, he tries to find her by calling her with a distinct meow of his.

I love watching them both together and am fascinated by the way they communicate. They have a perfect system!

Thanks for the gift of these two feline friends. They are a great, wonderful joy.

Vicki



Ziggy and Portia

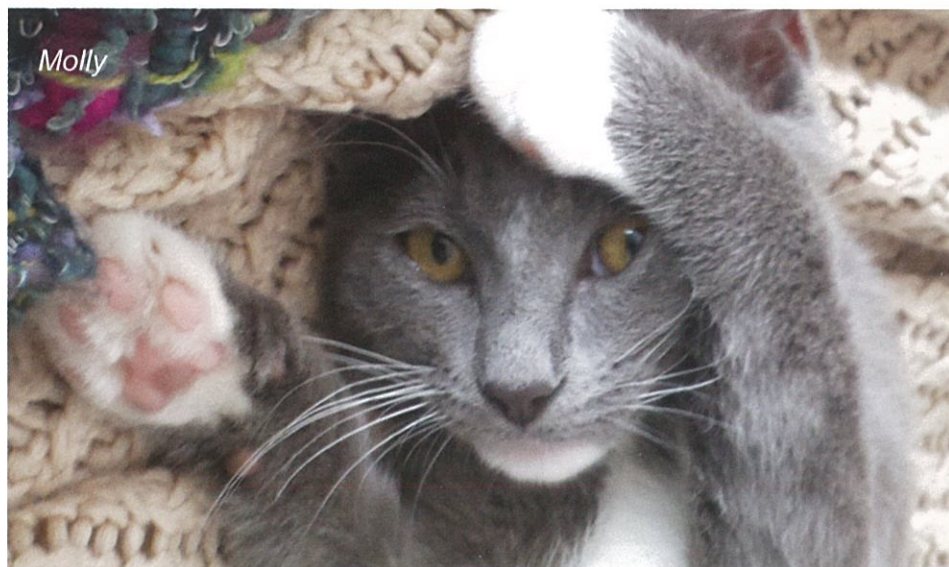
Dear Cat Protection Society

My husband and I adopted our little kitten over a month ago and since then she rules our household! We named her Molly.

Molly is doing well. She is one spoiled, loved, happy kitten.

Regards

Viktoria



Molly

Sparkle/Burrito



Hi Nerida

Sparkle has settled in well. We have re-named her Burrito and she loves playing with our rugs and toy mice. Couldn't be happier to be her new humans!

Cheers

Mike & Sarah

SCRATCHING POST

Hi

This is Mabel, now named Rani, adopted 23 October 2015. She's still in hiding and super shy, but her purrs and head butts melt my heart. Just last week she started to play with a few toys and now uses her scratching post all the time.

I hope that Rani will find her confidence in time, and come out more from under the bed. She has the sweetest nature and I still can't believe she sleeps 20 hours a day!!

Rasha xxx



Hi there

We adopted Loki and Merlin on 30 August when they were 4 months old and they very quickly settled into their new home. They are now a huge part of our family and we cannot imagine our house without them.

Every day they keep us entertained and they are incredibly affectionate – on their terms of course – and by far the most intelligent cats I have ever had the pleasure to look after!

Thank you again for allowing us to adopt such lovely kittens!

Shirley, Rob, Abigail & Isobel



Hi

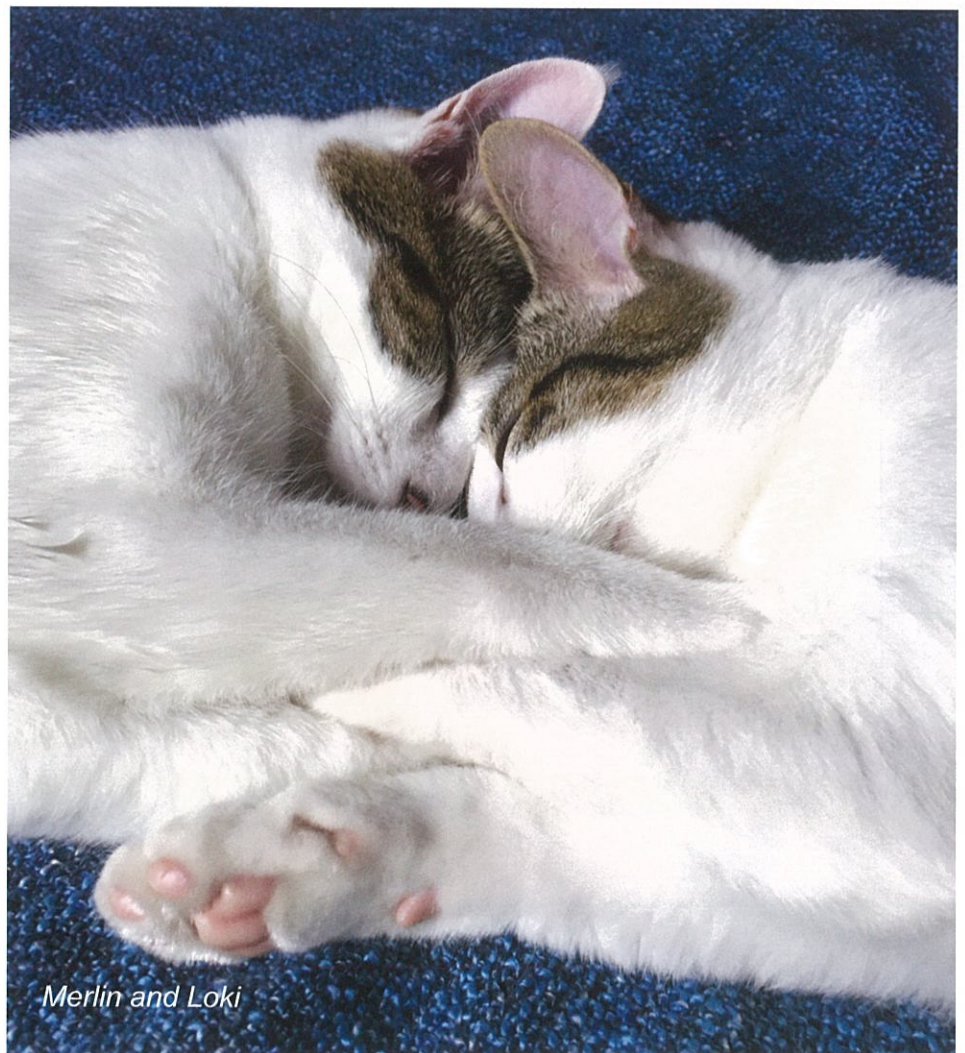
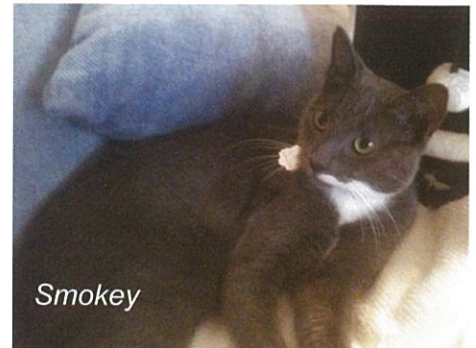
Just thought I would share with you a picture of Lancelot - adopted from your organisation in March 2015. He is my wife's and my pride and joy.

David

Hi Zoe

Gideon (now Smokey) has to be the most beautiful cat ever! We both adore him, he is funny, clever, and SO loving. He now thinks he runs the place (which he does) and boy he can eat, will he grow much bigger? Anyway, thanks for helping Scott and I with our choice, he is the best!

Jeni



SCRATCHING POST

Hi

This is Charlie. We have had him since May 2015. He loves to come inside every night to watch TV with us and during the day he loves sitting on the fence and looking out.

Thanks for our beautiful cat!

Jill

Hi guys

Came in today with my little sister to play with some of your kittens and just wanted to give you a well overdue update. I got Ducati in about February 2011. Since then he has become such an important part of our family! Even our big labbies love him. Attached some pics of him that you might like to see. Thanks for everything.

Loz



Ducati

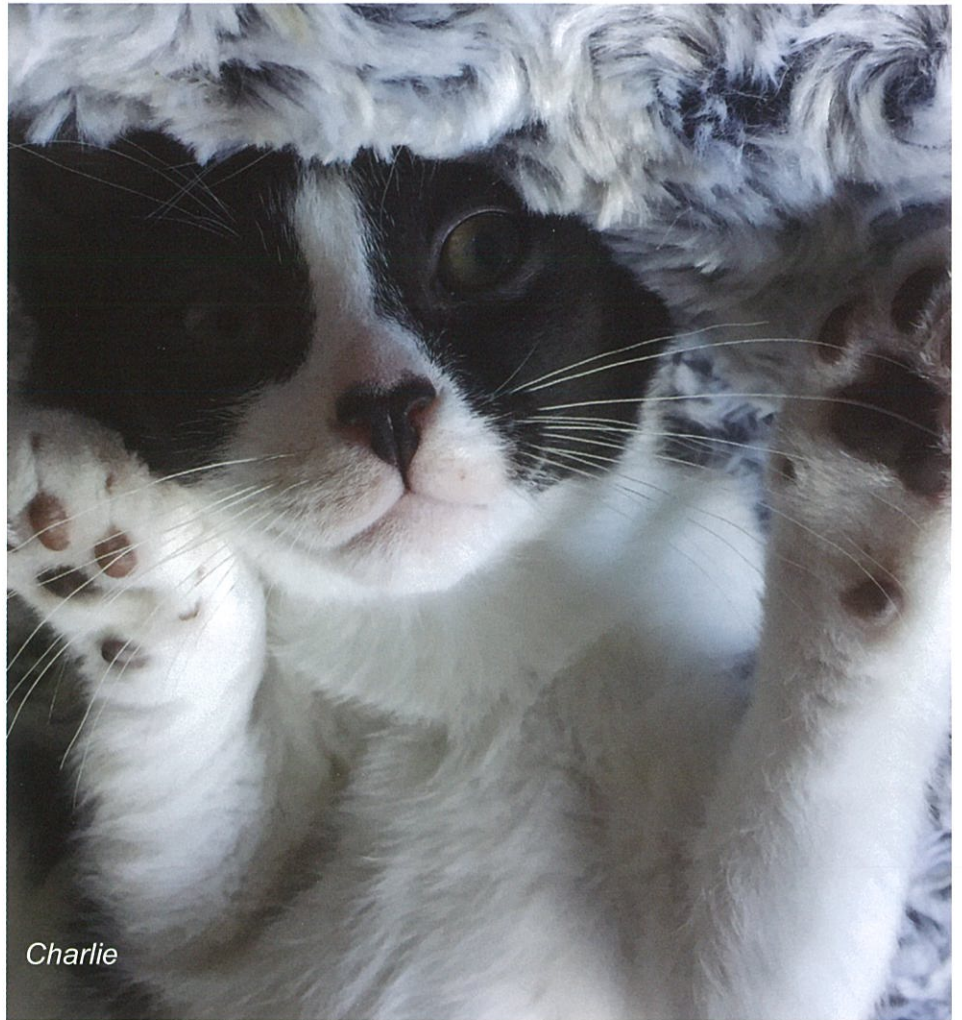
Hi Cat Protection Society

Jocelyn has settled 'her' persons into 'their' forever home quite nicely! She loves a good play, cuddle, and nap!

Her flea and worm treatments are up to date and we've got scheduled reminders in various places to keep track of them. She recently had her vaccination and we introduced her to the local vet (Concord Veterinary Hospital), where we learned she really didn't like having her nails clipped! We'd love some tips and tricks should you have any, for keeping their nails trimmed.

Thanks

Simon & Polly



Charlie



Jocelyn

SCRATCHING POST

Hi Nerida

Gemstone has been settling in really beautifully. He just wants to be around his humans all the time. Gemstone and our 7 year old Jarvis are best buddies. Here's Gemstone learning about the Palaeozoic era.

He purrs like a Harley Davidson and he's become super relaxed almost straight away.

He really is the smoochiest cat I've ever met!

Jo



Gemstone and Jarvis

Dear CPS

This week we celebrated 2 years with Bailey, who we adopted from you guys when he was just a kitten. In these 2 years he has won over so many hearts, saw foster kittens come and go, and celebrated his parents getting married. He's such a lord and we couldn't love him any more than we do now!

Thanks for all your hard work!

Claudia



Bailey

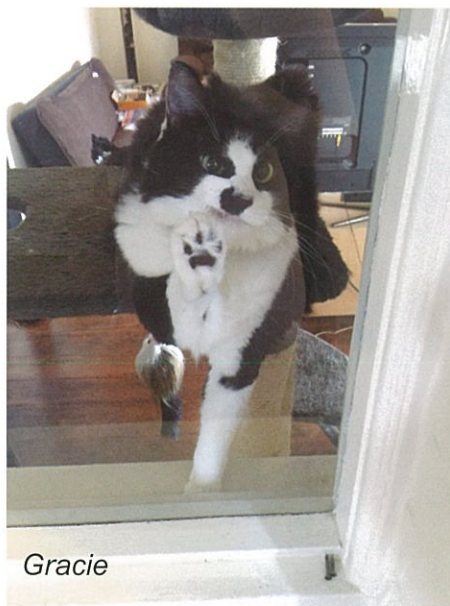
Hi

I adopted Kitty a couple of months ago and am just sending some photos through so you can see how she is going. She is very happy and settled and loves to sit on my lap.

Emma



Kitty



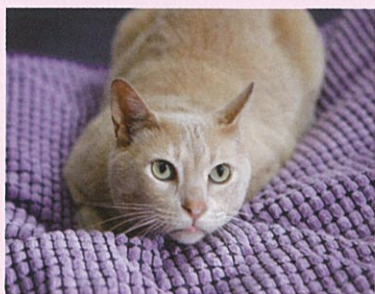
Gracie

Hi

This is Gracie, who we adopted from you in September 2013. She is a complete sweetheart, while still as manic and kitteny as ever, and our family wouldn't be complete without her. Thanks so much for our little girl!

Frances

IN MEMORIAM



In memory of Julius

Julius passed away on 31 October 2015.

Julius, my hero, my comforter, my supporter and my soulmate.

I truly believed that you were sent to us on a mission which was to walk with me through the most difficult and sad journey when Daddy passed away.

Your task was now completed, being a faithful servant, you had to return to your master's home.

Julius, I will forever miss you.

With love and kisses,

From Mama Lana



In memory of Rosie

I adored her from the first day I brought her home. She was a tortie-tabby, about one year old in November 1998 when I adopted her from CPS after she had been abandoned or dumped. I had wanted a ginger boy, but CPS didn't have any and when I met her, she simply seduced me. We bonded quickly and after the first six months she stopped being sociable and would disappear into the wardrobe when people came, making it abundantly clear she did not want invasions into our world; she would re-appear within a minute or two, even seconds, after the unwanted intruders had left.



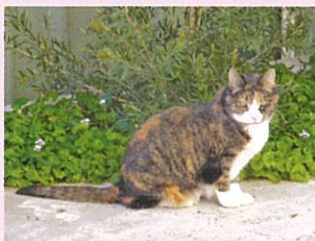
I named her Nbt Pr Rose. Nbt Pr is Ancient Egyptian for "Mistress of the House" (she lived up to her name), and Rose – well, I just liked it. In the early days she was often called 'Ms Nbt' but over time she became Rosie to everyone.

We had 16 wonderful years together. So many memories, so many lovely times, I will not single any out now. Beautiful lap cat who slept with me always, and in my arms through every winter.

Rosie was a special cat; gentle, loving and affectionate, hers was a truly beautiful soul. I was so fortunate to have been seduced by such a wonderful cat. She was, as one friend said, my everything; my friend, my confidant, my constant companion, my rock and anchor through difficult times, my shadow – all these and more. How do you put into words a special human-animal relationship such as this?

Cat of my life, I knew at the beginning that there would never be another like you. I let you go on 21 September 2015 because you had cancer. So hard, but I could not let you suffer. My very grateful thanks go to Greg Kelman and all staff at Kincumber Veterinary Hospital for their unfailing kindness and support through this very sad and difficult time.

Rosie, beautiful spirit, I adore you forever. Remain in my heart, rest in peace and wait for me.



IN MEMORIAM



In memory of Danny-Boy

Danny-Boy was adopted by my parents, June and Peter Munday (CPS members) in 2010. Born 1 March 2006, he was four years old, terrified of everyone, and never purred. It took six months for him to settle, but eventually he became trusting and curious, always appearing to meet visitors, and loving pats and attention.

Danny-Boy had been abused in his early life before he was surrendered to CPS. It was wonderful to watch him evolve with June and Peter, as he progressed from tolerating pats only on the top of his head, to being stroked and patted everywhere. He also began to purr.

Peter died in 2012 and Danny-Boy became very much June's cat, always beside her, sleeping, being petted, purring. A constant source of consolation for June after losing Peter, he was her special companion.

In 2015, June suffered health setbacks which kept her in hospital for half the year, during which time Danny was boarded with vet David at Concord Veterinary Hospital, where they had come to love Danny and treated him wonderfully. He developed a thyroid problem at this time which David and colleagues stabilised.

When June had to enter aged care, I took Danny on, thinking he would be company for me after the loss of my beautiful Rosie, and that I could offer him some stability and a forever home again. But it was not to be. Within weeks he became very sick, and tests disclosed a cancerous mass that would be difficult to remove. Sadly, the thyroid problem, which can exhibit similar symptoms, had masked the cancer.

Discussions with June, my sister in NZ, and Greg at Kincumber Vet Hospital resulted in a decision to have Danny euthanased. This took place on 12 January 2016 at Kincumber Vet Hospital. I was with him and he purred to the end.

Danny, your Mum misses you and will love you forever. I miss you. I regret the time we never had. RIP beautiful boy and know you are not forgotten.

To Rosie and Danny:

*If tears could build a stairway
and memories a lane
I'd walk right up to heaven
and bring you back again.*

Grateful thanks to Iain Bownes at Croydon Park Vet Hospital, Leah and Evan, both vets and my neighbours at Summer Hill, Paddington Cat Hospital and Greg and staff at Kincumber Vet Hospital for help over the years with Rosie. She lived to about 17 years and I wonder if she would have had that long without your wonderful help and care.

Grateful thanks to David Hughes and staff at Concord Vet Hospital for wonderful support and care with Danny over the years, and Greg and staff at Kincumber Vet Hospital for help and care at Danny's end.

You all helped to prove that "Love is the Best Medicine".

Barbara



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also Thursday evenings 4.30pm to 6.30pm;
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