



CAT CHAT

Cats
New South Wales
Incorporated

THE ALL-BREED MAGAZINE FOR THE BREEDER, EXHIBITOR & CAT FANCIER

All about: TRITRICHOMONAS & ANXIETY in cats

Breed focus: RAG DOLLS

Details of the: Sydney Royal Easter Show & ACF National Cat Shows



Cats NSW Incorporated

About CATS NSW

CATS NSW is a cat governing body in New South Wales and the ACT and proudly affiliated with the Australian Cat Federation Inc.

Our Committee:

- President: Helena Sugar (email: president@catsnsw.com.au)
- Senior Vice President: Tony Hurry
- Junior Vice President: Di Stokes
- Secretary: Alison Moore (email: secretary@catsnsw.com.au)
- Membership Secretary: Di Stokes (email: membership@catsnsw.com.au)
- Treasurer: Crystal Maher (email: treasurer@catsnsw.com.au)

Committee members:

Renee Bont, Peta Sperduty, Wendy Hamilton, Sandra Sweetman & Jenny Weekes.

Registrar: Fiona Cooper (email: registrar@catsnsw.com.au)

Delegates:

A.C.F. : Peta Sperduty & Tony Hurry

Affiliate Delegates: Rosemary Rogers, Joanne Greentree, Jenny Weekes, Suzette Greentree, Elizabeth Robinson & Sharon Black

Cat Chat Editor & Designer: Sandra Sweetman (email: catchatmagazine@gmail.com)

Highlights of this issue:

RECENT UPDATES from the Cats NSW Committee:	pages 4, 5 & 6
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Three ways to tell if your cat is the right weight:	pages 10 to 12
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Front cover: International German Judge Michael Hans Schleissner.
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Note: the views & opinions expressed in CAT CHAT are not essentially those of Cats NSW, any of its Committee members or the Editor. Content contributed has been accepted in good faith and without prejudice and Cats NSW accepts no responsibility as to its validity.



WELCOME READERS: to our fourth issue of 'Cat Chat'

Our first for this year: 2024

We have a great deal happening in this issue. The focus is on an interesting article: ♦ 'Tritrichomonas Diarrhoea in cats and kittens' plus from the Feline Health Research: ♦ 'Three ways to tell if your cat is the right weight', ♦ 'Heartworm in cats', and 'Why do cats purr' and don't miss out on ♦ 'Anxiety in Cats: 5 Vet-Approved ways to calm your cat'.

Our breed focus is on: Ragdolls along with the history and origins.

Please take a moment to look at the 'Recants Updates from the Cats NSW Committee' pages along with the 'Changes to Victorian laws - Advertising cats for sale' especially Breeders. Note: also the changes to the 2024 COTY this years (Cat of the Year) awards. There is information about our 'Junior Handler' Development Program. Congratulations to Ava Corcoran, aged 9 who participated at our 'Year's End' Cat Show 4th Nov as Junior Handler with Judge Debbie Thomas. If you would like your child(ren) to enter the form can be found on the last page.

There is some special coverage and bio's of all our wonderful Judges at this years Sydney Royal Easter Show (Cats NSW Cat Show is on: Good Friday 29th March) and the 52nd ACF National Cat Show hosted by Cats NSW on 8th & 9th June along with all our other stories and our COTY 2023 results.

If you would like to contribute an article, story, photo of your kitten/cats/litters etc or if you have any suggestions for future articles for 'Cat Chat' magazine please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please enjoy!



Sandra



Sonnet (Double Grand Champion Lookatmese Akira's Sonnet) who I imported from South Australia, bred by Jay & Amie Hobbs is now a model.



Editor: Sandra Sweetman
Email: catchatmagazine@gmail.com



Recent Updates from Cats NSW Committee



The Cats NSW **Sydney Royal Easter 4 Ring Cat Show** is on: Good Friday 29th March.

For all Judges details refer to pages 35-36

NOTE: entry extended to 3rd March

CONCERNING REGISTRATIONS:

MICROCHIPS FOR REGISTRATION

Every kitten and cat must have a microchip at the time of application for registration.

DESEXING CERTIFICATES FOR TRANSFERS

All kittens or cats being transferred from a breeder to an owner who is not a registered breeder must be desexed. A sterilisation certificate or letter of exemption from a registered veterinary surgeon is to be provided with the transfer application.

Please note: the Cats NSW Registrar's postal address has changed. Members should also be aware that the details on the reverse side of any pedigrees issued prior to February 2023 may have the old postal address on them.

The new postal address for the Cats NSW Registrar for all cat/kitten registrations, title updates etc is:

Cats NSW Registrar

PO Box 5033

South Tamworth, NSW 2340

all changes for pedigrees, title updates etc need to be mailed there.



Australia Post will end daily letter deliveries this year under new rules relaxing the requirement for five-day-a-week delivery. This means that Cats NSW members will soon be receiving ordinary letters and unaddressed mail every other business day. Under the new delivery rules, Posties will still pass every door on their route, every business day, but half the time you will only receive only parcels, express and priority mail.

Under the new model, this means that members can expect to receive ordinary letters on, say, a Monday, Wednesday and Friday one week and a Tuesday and Thursday the following week.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CATS NSW AND ITS MEMBERS?

This may result in Cats NSW Members receiving back their pedigrees a little slower and also our Registrars Office will be receiving your applications a little slower.



For all membership enquiries:

Please contact our Membership Secretary:

Di Stokes email: membership@catsnsw.com.au



ENTRY FOR CAT SHOWS is made electronically via:

<https://www.catshowsonline.com>

But note: that provision has been made for hard copy entries. If you experience difficulties entering through catshowsonline or would like to enter via a manual entry which can be done on your behalf please email Helena Sugar: arolena6@bigpond.com

VETTING OF ALL CATS/KITTENS

All cats and kittens entering the show venue, regardless of whether they are entered in the show as an exhibit/on exhibition or not entered, must be examined by a Vet before being benched in their show cage. Any cat or kitten not entered in the show will need to be benched in a cage or container approved by the Show Manager, in the designated quarantine area.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING: CATS AUSTRALIA

The Australian Cat Federation Inc has decided not to recognise Cats Australia.

Breeders are reminded that as per ACF by-law Part Two sub clause 5.16: *'All kittens bred in Australia must be first be registered with a Cat registering body in the state where the kittens are born, which is affiliated with an ACF (Inc.) Affiliate, a CCCA body or ANCATS.'*

Note: Cats NSW has no affiliation with Cats Australia.

It is with great sadness, that we inform you of the passing away of:

Joan Henderson

From ACF President: Judith Jordan

It is my sad duty to announce the passing of Joan Henderson, a lovely lady and highly regarded Judge and Tutor Judge of the Cat Fancy. Joan passed on 22 December at the age of 86 after a short illness.

Joan held her judges license from 1970 and within the last 2 years I had the privilege of watching her judge here in South Australia. Joan was as always, gentle with the exhibits, and informative enjoying some humorous banter with exhibitors.

Joan enjoyed success as a breeder of seal pointed Siamese under the prefix of AZADIA for some years and went on to own and exhibit with success Abyssinians, Burmese, British Blue Shorthairs, and Cornish Rex.

Joan judged extensively within Australia and overseas in her career making many friends who will sorely miss her lovely smile and her willingness to assist any who sought her advice.

RESOLVING DISPUTES BETWEEN CAT BREEDERS AND KITTEN/CAT BUYERS

Sometimes disputes between breeders and buyers of kittens/cats can arise and a member might refer the matter to Cats NSW. This could be, for example about the sale of a cat/kitten or the return of a deposit. These are, however usually a private contractual matter between the member and the buyer.

A dispute such as these should be resolved by the relevant government body e.g. Department of Fair Trading, Consumer Claims Tribunal rather than individually to Cats NSW.

Members should be aware that buyers may refer disputes to their local state based Consumer Tribunal, please refer to your local Consumer Group for information on the process.





Group photo of some of the Cats NSW current Committee from left to right: *Junior Vice President & Membership Secretary*: Di Stokes, Wendy Hamilton, *President*: Helena Sugar, *Senior Vice President*: Tony Hurry, Renee Bont, Sandra Sweetman & *Secretary*: Alison Moore.

Cat of the Year: 2024

Cat of the Year (COTY) The below information outlines how Cats NSW allocates Cat Of The Year points.

How are the points allocated?

Points will be counted from the date Cats NSW membership is accepted. Points will be awarded as per the following:

- ▶ 1st Place in Top 5: 5 points
- ▶ 2nd Place in Top 5: 4 points
- ▶ 3rd Place in Top 5: 3 points
- ▶ 4th Place in Top 5: 2 points
- ▶ 5th Place in Top 5: 1 point
- **Best In Group**: an extra 5 Points
- **Supreme Exhibit**: extra 5 Points

Eligibility to earn points

Only points gained at the following events will count, *provided* they are held in NSW or the ACT:

- ◆ Cats NSW Shows
- ◆ The Sydney Royal Easter Show
- ◆ The ACF National Cat Show

The following awards shall also be presented:

- Top 5 Kittens in Group 1, 2, 3 & 4
- Top 5 Entire Cats in Group 1, 2, & 3
- Top 5 Desexed Cats in Group 1, 2, 3 & 4



Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 1

The Group 1 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 2

The Group 2 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 3

The Group 3 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

EXHIBIT OF THE YEAR

Awarded to the exhibit who achieves the highest number of points throughout the year, as an aggregate of points won in all sections. **This includes kittens who move into the entire cat section during the year and entire cats who move into the desexed cat section during the year.**



'TRITRICHOMONAS'

TRITRICHOMONAS DIARRHOEA IN CATS AND KITTENS.

Dr Ngaire Dixon

**Chair of the New Zealand Cat Fancy
Veterinary Surgeon, Director, Board Member**

Tritrichomonas foetus is a protozoan parasite that has been reported in cats worldwide since 1956. Infection with this parasite causes chronic diarrhoea. In New Zealand it is seen in approximately 6% of cats with diarrhoea.

Whilst research has come a long way, there are still a lot of questions about the disease. Little is known as to how infection occurs. It is thought to occur by faecal oral transmission.

Clinical Signs:

- Infection generally occurs in young to middle aged cats.
- Cats often have a history of a long duration of diarrhoea.
- The diarrhoea is often waxing and waning.
- The diarrhoea often has blood or mucus in it and may be accompanied by flatulence and straining.

The diarrhoea is typically semi formed to cow pat in consistency and malodourous. In most cases, cats continue to be healthy and their appetite is normal. They do not lose weight (*this is thought to be because the infection is confined in the colon only*). In kittens' faecal incontinence and anal swelling is often seen.

It is possible that there are breed susceptibilities to infection. There appears to be no differences in infection between sexes.

Diagnosis:

Diagnosis is based on identifying the protozoa. Previously this was done by observing the protozoa on a direct smear or cultured sample. However, the PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test to detect DNA from tritrichomonas in cat faeces can detect live and dead organisms and is the most sensitive means for diagnosis of infection.

The protozoa is not constantly shed, therefore it is not always seen in the faeces. No available diagnostic test has 100% sensitivity for detection of the protozoa.

All tests must be done on fresh diarrheic faeces and antibiotics must not be given for 7 days prior to testing.

The diagnosis of tritrichomonas can often be confused with giardia as the signs are similar. However, in a number of instances, concurrent infections with tritrichomonas and giardia can be seen. Concurrent infections are also seen with the retroviral infections (*FeLV and FIV viruses*).



Treatment:

Specific Treatment with Ronidazole. Tritrichomonas infections often improve with anti-diarrhoea treatments, however the organism is resistant to most traditionally used anti-protozoal drugs such as fenbendazole and metronidazole.

The only effective cure is using a drug called *ronidazole*. Treatment of symptomatic cats is usually recommended due to the long carrier status of the disease and their potential to infect other cats during this period. This drug is not licensed for use in cats and it must be used with caution under strict veterinary supervision. It may cause signs of neurotoxicity (*inappetence, lethargy, ataxia and seizures*).

Ronidazole must not be used in kittens less than 12 weeks of age. Untreated cats should be kept separate from treated cats and occasionally more than one course of treatment may be required.

Since the diarrhoea usually resolves over time it may not be necessary to treat all cat.

General Nursing Care:

- Litter boxes must be cleaned daily.
- A simple, highly digestible diet or a high fibre diet will aid in the treatment of the disease.
- Probiotics will result in improved faecal consistency.

Dr Ngaire Dixon is a highly experienced Veterinary Surgeon who has a passion for cats. She breeds and shows Devon Rex cats and is dedicated to ensuring the health and welfare of her cats is at the centre of all she does. Dr Dixon is a well respected Director, sitting on the Board of numerous companies. She is the current Chair of the New Zealand Cat Fancy and as such is a strong advocate for responsible breeding practices; she works tirelessly to ensure that all cats receive the care and attention they deserve.



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Details: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1035249013975678/?ref=share_group_link



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Contact: sales@eyeenvy.com.au

Check out the website www.eyeenvy.com.au



Three ways to tell if your cat is the right weight

Cats vary so much across and within breeds and between male and female that it is impossible to give a definitive weight for any given cat.

Your vet will use the Body Condition Score (BCS). The BCS is a scale ranging from 1 to 9, where 1 indicates a severely underweight cat, while 9 suggests obesity.

The ideal range for most cats is typically between 4 and 5, where the cat has a well-proportioned body without an excessive, layer of fat.

Fortunately, you can monitor your cat's condition by assessing three key areas of the cat's body:



RIBS:

Run your hands along your cat's sides. In a cat with a healthy BCS, you should be able to feel the ribs without pressing too hard. If the ribs and spine are easily felt or are visible, the cat might be underweight, while difficulty feeling the ribs suggests overweight.

WAISTLINE:



View your cat from above. A cat with an ideal BCS will have a discernible waistline between the ribcage and hips. A lack of a defined waistline could indicate excess weight.

ABDOMEN:



Examine your cat's belly. A cat with a healthy BCS will have a slight tuck-up in the abdomen. An overweight cat may have a rounded or sagging belly, while an underweight cat may have a visible tuck-up.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Being underweight in a cat that is properly nourished and free from stress can indicate a variety of serious health conditions such as parasites and gastrointestinal infections, diabetes, dental issues, kidney disease and cancer so you should consult your vet.

Being overweight can bring on a long list of serious conditions:

- ◆ **Diabetes.** Excess body fat can lead to insulin resistance, making it more challenging for the body to regulate blood sugar levels.
- ◆ **Increased stress on a cat's joints**, which can lead to arthritis and decreased mobility. Joint problems can result in pain and a reduced quality of life for the cat.
- ◆ **Increased risk of heart disease.** The heart has to work harder to pump blood through the additional body fat, leading to potential cardiovascular issues.
- ◆ **Difficulty breathing**, especially during physical activity. This can contribute to respiratory issues and compromise their overall lung function.
- ◆ **Fatty Liver Disease** (*hepatic lipidosis*) a serious liver disorder that can occur when the body breaks down fat stores too rapidly.
- ◆ **Compromised immune system**, making overweight cats more susceptible to infections and illnesses.
- ◆ **Urinary tract problems**, including urinary tract infections and a condition called feline lower urinary tract disease.
- ◆ **Digestive problems** in cats, including constipation and an increased risk of developing hairballs.

WHAT TO DO WITH AN OVERWEIGHT CAT

If your cat is **severely overweight**, consult with your vet. They can assess your cat's overall health, determine an appropriate target weight, and provide tailored advice. They may recommend transitioning your cat to a nutritionally balanced, high-quality cat food formulated for weight management.

If your cat is **tending towards becoming overweight**, this can be headed off with a regime of *eat less – move more*.

EAT LESS

Instead of free-feeding, establish a consistent meal-feeding schedule. Portion control is crucial. Divide the daily food allowance into several small meals throughout the day.

Reduce treats or substitute for healthier alternatives.

Be gradual, crash diets can actually bring on fatty liver disease, a serious condition.



MOVE MORE

Encourage your cat to work for their food by using interactive feeders or puzzle toys. This not only provides mental stimulation but also slows down their eating, helping them feel more satisfied.

Engage your cat in regular play sessions using toys that encourage movement. Interactive toys, laser pointers, feather wands, and climbing structures can all promote physical activity. Gradually increase the duration and intensity of play.

Enrich your cat's environment with scratching posts, climbing structures, and window perches. This provides mental stimulation and encourages natural behaviours, contributing to overall well-being.

This article is for general advice only and if in any doubts about your cat's health, check in with your vet.

But, with a some careful observation and, perhaps, a little tough love, you can see your cat on the right weight track.



To get cat health stories direct to your email or to support cat health research in Australia, go the

[Feline Health Research Fund website](#)

The research and education work of the Feline Health Research Fund in entirely supported by cat loving organisations and individuals. Your support would be appreciated.

TIP:

For stains on your cat's fur particularly ink, try wiping the ink stain down with milk as the milk should help it dissolve. Suggestion is to use a lactose-free milk or 'cat's milk' as if the cat licks it - it shouldn't upset the cat's stomach the way regular milk would.



PAWS: for thought

'In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this.' –
Terry Pratchett

'It is impossible for a lover of cats to banish these alert, gentle, and discriminating friends, who give us just enough of their regard and complaisance to make us hunger for more.' –
Agnes Repplier

'There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.' –
Albert Schweitzer

'Time spent with cats is never wasted.' –
Sigmund Freud

“

'I had been told that the training procedure with cats was difficult. It's not. Mine had me trained in two days.' – *Bill Dana*

”



FREDDIE

by Anita Stevens: 14th July 2023



I farewelled my friend today while fighting back my tears.
Freddie, my companion, for almost fourteen years.
It was the right decision - had to ignore my qualms -
Be brave, end his suffering and love with open arms...

All over in a minute - felt his life slip away. As I held him in my arms
- such a heart-breaking day!
I knew how much I'd miss him - what a big gap he'd leave. That I'd never forget
him, knew how much I would grieve...

For Freddie was so special - bought when all news was bad. Of Denis' diagnosis -
He made us smile, when sad...

A playful, funny kitten, who quickly won my heart, and since that day we bought
him we've never been apart.

He went to the boat with us and was loved by our friends. Who often came for
coffee - They were such good weekends...

And when things got even worse Freddie was always there. To greet me when I
came home, with affection to share...

Hospital visits - rehab - Yes, Freddie went along. To visit ailing Denis where cats
did not belong.

Except in the passageway where we could sit and talk. Which cheered Denis
immensely; on a lead Fred would walk...

He was there through the sad times, a faithful, loving friend, Through times of grief
and changes that I had to attend ...

Then our move to Living Choice eleven years ago. Where we started a new life -
best decision, I know!

Often we would go for walks, sit a while, have a chat.

To passing neighbours who'd stop and greet my friendly cat.

Freddie's had a happy life, we have made many friends

Who like me will grieve for him when they learn his life ends...



My home now is so empty and I feel so alone
Without my dear friend Freddie,
and the times we have known
But I gave him a good life, happiness to the end
Here at home until his last day with his 'mother' and
best friend.

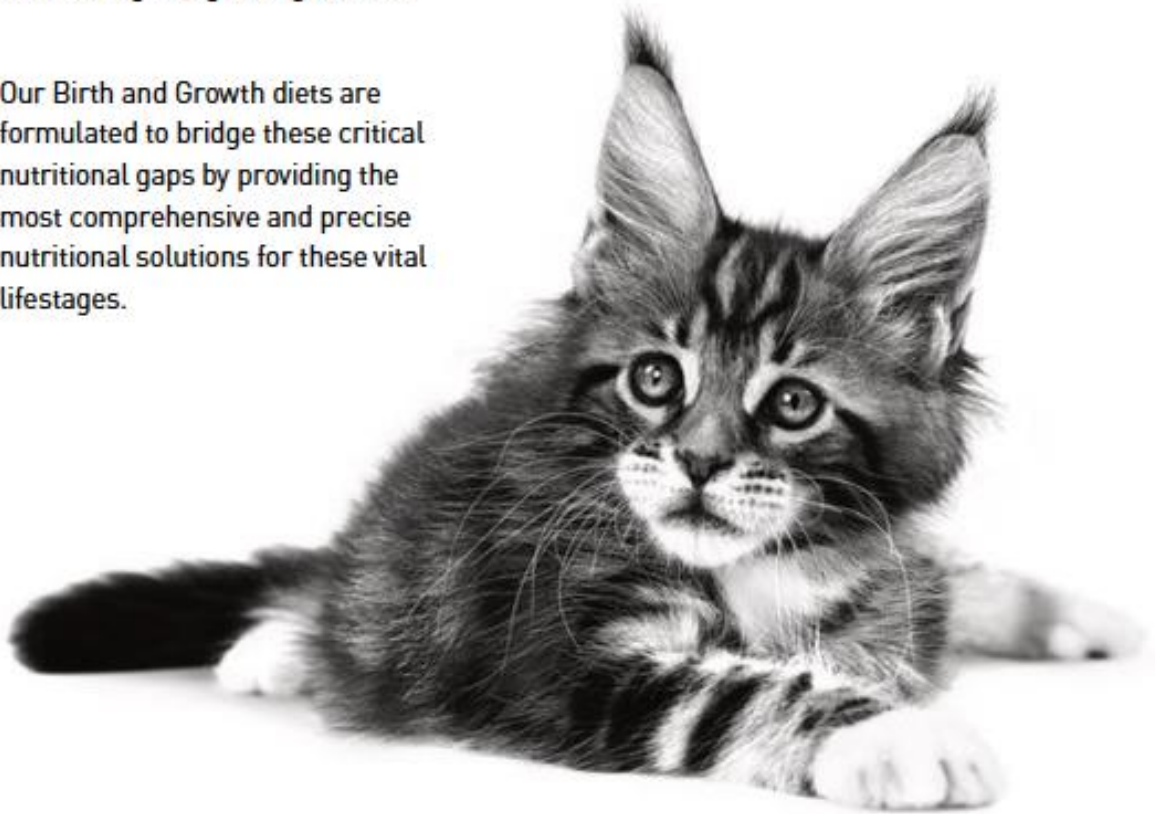
Anita is an Author and Poet and has published her ninth
book of short stories and poems. She loves all cats.



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ANXIETY IN CATS

5 Vet-Approved Ways to Calm Your Cat

by: **Rhiannon Koehler, DVM**



Anxiety in dogs is well-known to most pet parents, but what about the anxiety of our feline friends? Like dogs, cats can have separation anxiety, generalized anxiety, or anxiety triggered by specific events such as thunderstorms, new additions to the family, or moving to a new home.

Anxiety in cats takes many forms, including urine marking, recurrent urinary tract disorders (*FLUTD*), overgrooming, or other compulsive behaviors.

If the behavior change is sudden and without a known cause, visit your veterinarian to rule out underlying health conditions. Otherwise, read on to learn five vet-approved ways to calm your cat.

Key Takeaways

- Anxiety in cats can take many forms, including urine marking, overgrooming, and other compulsive behaviors.
- Creating a relaxing environment for your cat, with access to toys, scratching posts, and a safe space away from potential threats, can help reduce anxiety.
- Playing with your cat and providing them with interactive toys, such as wand toys and puzzle toys, can also reduce anxiety.
- Over-the-counter calming products, such as pheromones and supplements, may help reduce anxiety but should be discussed with a veterinarian first.

1. Create a Relaxing Environment

If your cat is stressed by specific events, such as fireworks or family gatherings, you can preemptively create a relaxing environment for your cat. Think of it as your cat's personal oasis!

Indoor cats keep the natural behaviors of outdoor cats, including scratching, chewing, hunting, playing, and climbing. A relaxing environment for cats encourages these natural behaviors and is safe from potential threats, including dogs or the grabbing hands of children. Consider using a gate to keep dogs and kids out of your cat's safe space.

Cats enjoy climbing to high spaces that give them a vantage point to survey their surroundings. By providing your cat with cat trees, window seats, and elevated beds, you create an enriching space.

Cats also prefer to sleep in warm spaces. Providing self-warming beds and beds in sunny spaces can help your cat feel comfortable. When using heated beds, however, ensure you've considered the dangers of electrical cords, particularly if your cat has a penchant for chewing.



Include scratching posts so your kitty can sharpen their claws. Scratching behaviors are important for claw health and allow cats to mark their space. Most often, cats will scratch in prominent vertical spaces near their resting areas. You can offer both vertical and horizontal scratching opportunities, but you might consider a tall scratching post near their bed.

If your cat is having daily anxiety, is regularly triggered by the same stimulus, or has more than one episode of anxiety per month, schedule an appointment with your vet.

The safe space should also include engaging toys to promote natural hunting and playing behaviors. You can buy crinkle balls that make nice crunchy noises or automated toys that mimic prey, or even give them cardboard boxes with the cores of toilet paper rolls to bat around. Some cats tend to have “*favorite*” toys, so once you identify what your cat loves, this is a great way to create a pleasant space for your cat to relax.

Always consider your cat’s sense of smell. Stimulating smells, such as catnip, reduce a cat’s anxiety. You can use catnip toys or sprinkle catnip in your cat’s relaxing area. Hiding treats is another great way to incorporate your cat’s sense of smell.

If you only put your cat in this space when they’re stressed, they may associate the area with their triggers. Your cat should have access to this space even in non-stressful situations. Ensure you’ve considered their basic needs by including access to water, food (unless on timed feedings), and a litter box.

2. Put On Soft Music or White Noise

When we think of relaxing music, we often think of classical music. A cat’s anxiety levels are better reduced by cat music. Cat music is within their frequency range and with similar tempos to those in natural cat communication. If you intend to use music to help with your cat’s anxiety, consider using a speaker that specifically plays cat music.

In some cases, you may be turning on music or a white noise machine to drown out loud noises that cause anxiety for your cat. Keep in mind: While this may drown out the noise for you, your cat likely still hears the offending sound. If a white noise machine is too loud or makes noises that are unpleasant to the cat, the noise can add to their anxiety.



3. Make Time for Play and Interaction

Engaging in play with your cat helps them express natural behaviors, which is good for your cat's mental health.

Toys that encourage cats to practice hunting and play behaviors include:

- ◆ Wand toys
- ◆ Automated, self-propelling toys that mimic prey
- ◆ Light-beam pointers
- ◆ Puzzle toys
- ◆ Crinkly toys
- ◆ Cardboard boxes including cores of toilet paper rolls



If your cat doesn't care for playtime but still enjoys human interaction, consider grooming sessions as an alternative.

Make sure your only playing time with your cat is right before their trigger occurs. Cats are smart creatures, and if playtime is always followed by something unpleasant, it will lose all appeal.

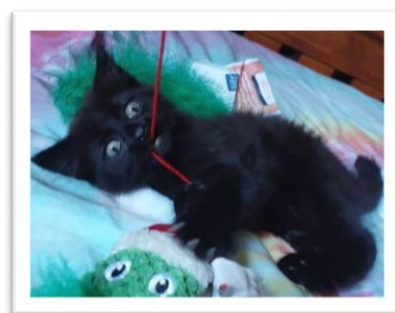
4. Use Over-The-Counter (OTC) Calming Products

OTC products are also a great option to help with your cat's anxiety and don't require a prescription from the vet. But it's important to discuss any supplements with your veterinarian before adding them to your cat's diet. Your vet can also help you find the best option based on your cat's health.

Some OTC products contain pheromones, which are species-specific chemical signals that can create a sense of safety.

Examples include:

- ◆ Feliway spray
- ◆ Feliway diffusers including:
 - ◆ Feliway Classic
 - ◆ Feliway Optimum
 - ◆ Feliway Multicat
- ◆ Calming wipes
- ◆ Calming collars



Additionally, nutraceuticals or supplements help reduce a cat's anxious behaviours. Nutraceuticals are food-derived substances that may influence health but are not regulated by the FDA.

Common supplements that may help with cat anxiety include:

- ◆ Vibeful™ Calming Powder
- ◆ Nutramax® Solliquin Calming Soft Chews
- ◆ Zylkene® Calming Capsules
- ◆ VetriScience® Calming Soft Chews

Above photos: rescue kitten: Ruby found at 6 weeks lost travelled into a storage facility. Residing now at the Central Coast.



5. Discuss Anxiety Medications With Your Veterinarian

If your cat is having daily anxiety, is regularly triggered by the same stimulus, or has more than one episode of anxiety per month, or if their anxiety is affecting your family life, schedule an appointment with your vet. In some cases, they may recommend using anti-anxiety medications.

Anti-anxiety medications can be sorted into two categories: long-term medications used for daily anxiety and short-term medications used for triggering events or phobias.

Medications often prescribed for daily or generalized anxiety include:

- ◆ Fluoxetine
- ◆ Paroxetine
- ◆ Sertraline
- ◆ Amitriptyline
- ◆ Clomipramine
- ◆ Buspirone

Medications often prescribed for short-term uses or triggering events include:

- ◆ Gabapentin
- ◆ Trazodone
- ◆ Alprazolam
- ◆ Lorazepam
- ◆ Oxazepam

Be sure to work with your veterinarian regarding dosing and the proper schedule for administering any prescription medication. Medications should never be stopped suddenly; work with your veterinarian if you need to stop a medication for any reason.

Keep in mind that this medication list is not all-inclusive, so don't be afraid to try another option if it is suggested by your veterinarian. It may take some experimentation with your veterinarian to find what works best for your individual cat's anxiety.

Get to the Root of the Issue

If your cat's anxiety is affecting their well-being or your ability to make plans, work with your veterinarian to get to the bottom of the issue. While OTC products, creating enjoyable environments, background noise, and play time certainly all have their place in your cat's mental health, some cats simply need medication to cope with their anxiety, just like their human family members.

Managing your cat's anxiety will take time and patience. You may need to reevaluate your initial attempts multiple times. In some cases, your cat's anxiety will best be managed by a veterinary behaviorist, a veterinarian who specializes in the diagnosis and management of animal behavior.



Dr. Rhiannon Koehler is a veterinarian and freelance medical writer. She received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Master of Public Health degrees from the University of Missouri. She is the founder of Evergreen Medical Writing, a company focused on pet owner, clinician, and patient education, as well as biomedical grant-writing. Outside of writing, she performs surgery for an animal shelter and low-cost veterinary clinic.

Learn more at ['PetMD.com'](https://www.petMD.com)

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Why do cats: PURR

The purring of cats is something we find very appealing.

They are able to vibrate their vocal chords as they breathe in and out to produce that rhythmic vibration we call a purr, in a similar way to human speech.

Research suggests a cat can purr in different ways and for various reasons.

Kittens are born blind and deaf and they begin purring after just a few days to attract their mother's attention at feeding time.



Cat owners are often treated to a coercive display of purring around dinner time.

Cats can manipulate their purr. Researchers found that, when purring to solicit food, there is a concealed cry within their purr similar to the cries of a human baby. This triggers a nurturing response in their human owners.

Cats often purr when people stroke them so we associate purring and the cat's pleasure. They may also be trying to encourage further interaction as if to say '*please continue to stroke me*'. But the benefit is not all one way. The purring of a cat has a calming effect on people and cat owners, for example, have a 40% lower risk of having a heart attack.

We usually associate purring with contentment. However, even though it takes energy, many cats purr when they get hurt or are in pain. So what makes the effort worth it? The purr generates strong frequencies between 25 and 150 Hz. Various researchers have shown that sound frequencies in this range are optimal for pain relief and can improve bone density and promote healing of bones and muscles.

In general, the easiest way to tell why your cat is purring is to check their body language and the context. If the purring is first thing in the morning maybe they're simply asking to be fed. If you just returned from a day at work they may be saying hello.

And if they are sitting on your lap purring contentedly?

Hey, don't overthink it, just relax and enjoy the moment.



To get cat health stories direct to your email or to support cat health research in Australia, go the

[Feline Health Research Fund website](#)



HEARTWORM in cats?

Dog owners are rightly concerned about heartworm infections. Heartworm is common throughout Australia and especially in hot and humid areas. Infection can cause serious illness and death in dogs.

But what about cats?

The same worm (*Dirofilaria immitis*) that infects dogs can also be transmitted to cats and other animals including foxes and ferrets. Transmission is by mosquito bite so your cat does not need to come into direct contact with an infected animal to catch it.

Fortunately, heartworm infection is much less serious in cats.

Cats' immune systems seem to be better adapted to defeating heartworm. In most cases the infection will disappear without the cat showing symptoms.

In the rare occurrence that an infection takes hold, the symptoms can include vomiting of blood or food, diarrhoea, coughing and breathing difficulties. It is easy to confuse these symptoms with other serious conditions such as asthma so trip to the vet is called for if they appear.

Unlike dogs, there is no widely accepted treatment for heartworm in infected cats.

So what should you do?

Studies have shown that heartworm in cats is most common in areas that have high rates of infection in dogs. Also global warming is leading to the appearance of increasing numbers of mosquitoes that were previously uncommon in southern states. If you live in such an area it may be worth seeking out a preventative that includes heartworm protection along with that for fleas and intestinal worms.

A number of veterinary practices can also be found via your search engine that will provide facts and advice – and you can always raise the issue with your own vet on your next visit.



To get cat health stories direct to your email or to support cat health research in Australia, go the

[Feline Health Research Fund website](#)

BREEDERS: please make sure your details are correct/up to date on your Cats NSW Breeders listing on the Cats NSW web site:
<https://catsnsw.com.au/breeders/>.

For all changes/updates: please email the Web Master:
webmaster@catsnsw.com.au



Cats NSW is thrilled to announce our new partnership with Petcover – Pet Insurance.

An award-winning, independently owned pet insurance provider, and a pioneer in the pet industry.

Pet Insurance is all they do, and they do it best!

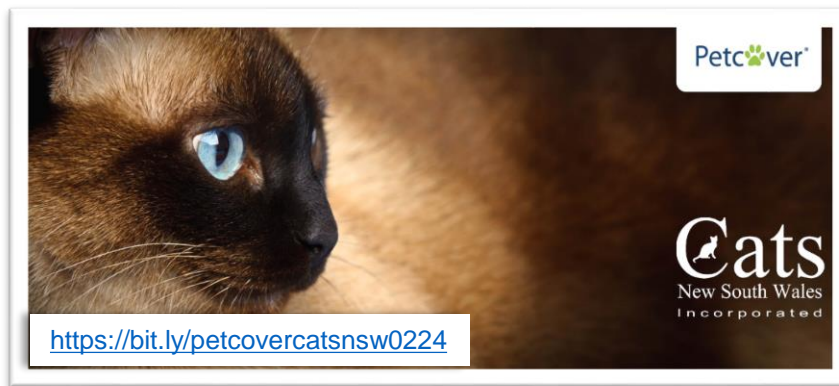
We are grateful to have their support for 2024, and sponsoring numerous events including our 2024 Championship events, the Australian Cat Federation (ACF) National Show, and our Championship at the Sydney Royal Show.

Cats NSW would like to welcome Petcover to our Cat Community.

Stay tuned for further updates relating to our partnership.

We look forward to meeting the Petcover events team at a few of our shows.

For more information about Petcover or to get a quote to insure your cat or pet, please view their website: petcovergroup.com/au/



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*Cover is subject to terms and conditions, and eligibility criteria and excludes pre-existing conditions. Excesses, sub-limits, and waiting periods apply. Please consider the PDS and TMD available on the product page of our website, before deciding to purchase the product. Issued by Sovereign Insurance Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 85 138 079 286, AFSL No. 342516).



Petcover works closely with Australian veterinarians, breeders, charities, and pet business partners.

Committed to helping animals live longer and healthier lives, Petcover has maintained longstanding and valued partnerships within the Australian pet industry.

As a Petcover partner, breeders can offer new pet owners 6 weeks of free introductory pet insurance coverage, with no cost to the breeder or customer. *

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*6 Weeks Free Introductory Insurance cover can only be issued to kittens aged 8 weeks to 36 weeks, from approved partners. Cover subject to terms and conditions, and eligibility criteria and excludes pre-existing conditions. Excesses, sub-limits, and waiting periods apply. Please consider the PDS and TMD available on the product page of our website, before deciding to purchase the product. Issued by Sovereign Insurance Australia Pty Ltd (ABN 85 138 079 286, AFSL No. 342516).



FIND OUT MORE



JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Cats NSW encourages and supports young Junior Exhibitors with the 'Junior Handler' Development Program award at our Cats NSW Cat Shows throughout the year with points accumulating towards the 'Junior Handler Cat of Year' award.

This award encourages children to learn aspects of breeding, showing, judging and what is involved with ownership of a cat with the outcome that these younger members will be retained in the Cat Fancy ensuring its future.

There are two child age categories: 8 to 12 years and 13 to 17 years old and any Cats NSW members children are eligible to enter the Cats NSW Junior Development Program and they should be responsible for all aspects of the cat including: feeding, grooming and the presentation for the show ring. The cat itself is not judged just the Junior Handler.

It is preferred that the cat is owned by the Junior Handler but if it is co-owned by an adult then they should reside in the same house together with the Junior Handler being the primary care person for the cat.

To best ensure the success of our *Junior Handler Development Program* we will aim to provide at each and every Cats NSW Cat Shows the opportunity for participants to train and for assessments to be undertaken and completed through the avenue of a Junior Exhibitor Handler Class found on the relevant Show Schedule. There is no charge for your child(ren) to enter this class although a form needs to be completed and signed (*refer to back page of this issue for a copy of the form*). This then needs to be handed in prior to the commencement of the Cat Show that your child(ren) is entered in.

For further information please email Cats NSW Secretary: secretary@catsnsw.com.au

Cats NSW can make exceptions to this rule judged on a case by case basis. Please simply state your case in writing and send an email through to the Cats NSW Secretary secretary@catsnsw.com.au



Photos show Junior Handler Ava Corcoran aged 9 participating with Shiloh Kahili MacGuyver a lilac point Siamese at the 4th Nov 'Years End' Cat Show with Judge Debbie Thomas.





For BREEDERS: to be aware of

Changes to Victorian laws - Advertising cats for sale

To summarise:

- Advertising the sale or rehoming of cats in (or to) Victoria requires the Breeder's source number and each individual animal's microchip number.
- The new rules do not allow for a veterinary practitioner to exempt any kitten from being implanted with a microchip for the purpose of advertising.
- These laws can affect breeders not living in Victoria. If you intend or decide to sell or rehome to Victorian pet lovers, you must include microchip numbers, and you need to obtain a source number from the Pet Exchange Register.

What if I'm a breeder advertising the future availability of kittens that aren't born or for sale yet?

If your listing relates only to the future availability of litters and does not include reference to individual animals or animals currently 'for sale', the microchip and source number requirements do not apply.

More information is available here - Animal Welfare Victoria

Cut and paste this link:

https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/domestic-animals-act/pet-exchange-register?utm_source=brevvo&utm_campaign=Newsletter+Jan+2023&utm_medium=email

Information from: Perfect Pets: <https://perfectpets.com.au>



Perfect Pets is an Australian owned and operated online pet directory that lists pet services and products, including fully verified breeders, rescues, vets, and groomers. With a commitment to animal welfare and ethical practices, the platform has become one of Australia's most trusted sites for pet lovers, and with over 10.5 million visitors to date, is playing a pivotal role in reaching, educating and connecting people who are committed to a kind future for pets and people.

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The benefits of DNA testing

- ✓ Ensures your responsibility as a breeder in maintaining the best standards when it comes to the health of your animals
- ✓ Allows you to screen for relevant diseases – assess genetic status (clear or carrier or affected)
- ✓ Screens for desirable traits such as coat colours & hair length
- ✓ A DNA profile (fingerprint) allows you to verify any stud service, multiple sires and confirm pedigrees
- ✓ Focusing your testing on your breeding stock will allow you to predict outcomes for future litters

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- ✓ DNA collection is via a non-invasive cheek swab
- ✓ Test at any age
- ✓ Orivet's Innovative Full Breed Profiles screen for all diseases and traits relevant to your breed



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Cats NSW SHOW DATES for: 2024

Date of show:

Organisation:



Saturday 9th March

Cool Country Cat Club



Friday 29th March
(*Good Friday*)

Cats NSW Inc.
the Sydney Royal Easter Show



Saturday 13th April

Ku-Ring-Gai Himalayan Cat Club



Saturday 11th May

Cats NSW Inc.



Saturday 8th &
Sunday 9th June

ACF 52nd National Cat Show
Venue: Hawkesbury Showground
Hosted by Cats NSW



Saturday 29th June

Western Districts Cat Society



Saturday 27th July

Tamworth and District Cat Club



Saturday 31st August

Borderline Cat Club



Sunday 15th September

Cats NSW Inc.



Saturday 12th October

Cats NSW Inc.



Saturday 2nd November

Cats NSW Inc.



Saturday 23rd November

Cats NSW Inc. AGM & COTY
(*Cat of the Year awards*)

Note: these are the proposed dates: possibly subject to change.

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Cat of the Year: 2023 (COTY) results

And the **WINNERS ARE:**



Right: Group 1 plus overall COTY winner:
ROYALGLAMOUR CLOUD NYNE
Owners: Tony & Jeanine Brown
Persian desexed blue bi-colour (177 points)



Above: Group 2 winner:
MURMURELLIUS ELISEY
Owners: Helena & Aaron Sugar
Peterbald seal point (117 points)



Above left: Group 3 winner:
AWAYFARR BASIL
Owner: Colleen Blair
Cornish Rex Red mink bi-colour (155 points)



Above right: Companion winner:
LADY FERN
Owners: Danielle & Thomas Clewett-Dang
Chocolate mackerel tabby & white (79 points)

COTY Photographer: Di Stokes,
Jnr Vice President Cats NSW



And the TOP RESULTS ARE:

GROUP 1: 1st place: KITTENS:

GREENCROFT AM I READY Owner: Suzette Greentree *Persian white* (77 points)

Reserve: GREENCROFT HERE'S JOHNNY Owner: Suzette Greentree
Persian blue bi-colour (75 points)

1st place: ENTIRE: COOLCOONS SECRET BUSINESS

Owners: Fiona Cooper & Mary-Jo Bailey

Main Coon Black classic tabby bi-colour (175 points)

Reserve: POKHARA DREAM ON Owner: Stephanie Timmony
Persian blue tortie (58 points)

1st place: DESEXED Plus Overall COTY winner: ROYALGLAMOUR CLOUD NYNE

Owners: Tony & Jeanine Brown *Persian blue bi-colour* (177 points)

Reserve: GREENCROFT JUSTA DUCHESS

Owners: Tony & Jeanine Brown *Persian black tortie bi-colour* (159 points)

GROUP 2: 1st place: KITTENS: SHILOH POLU NAHELE

Owner Sandra & Ross Sweetman *Siamese blue point* (59 points)

Reserve: SHILOH KAHILI MACGYVER Owner: Joanne Nash
Siamese lilac point (50 points)

1st Place: ENTIRE: ASTRAXALOTTE AKONI GEM

Owner: Sandra & Ross Sweetman *Siamese blue point* (96 points)

Reserve: KARRINA SHOGUN WULFIE Owner: Sharon Black
Siamese blue point (56 points)

1st place DESEXED: plus overall Group 2 winner: MURMURELLIUS ELISEY

Owner: Helena & Aaron Sugar *Peterbald seal point* (117 points)

Reserve: KALINYA YM GISELLE Owners: Bev & Tony Hurry
Siamese seal point (37 points)

Group 3: 1st place: KITTENS: NAREIRA GEORGIE GIRL

Owners: Di & Brad Stokes *Abyssinian blue* (48 points)

Reserve: TIJAH BILLY THE KID Owner: Debbie Thomas *Abyssinian blue* (47 points)

1st Place: ENTIRE: AWAYFARR ONE & ONLY Owners: Hazel & Amelia Farraway
Cornish Rex chocolate bi-colour (39 points)

Reserve: KRAZIKATAZ ROCKIN ROBIN Owner: Fiona Tresize
Scottish Fold Shorthair blue spotted tabby (34 points)

1st place DESEXED: plus overall Group 3 winner:

AWAYFARR BASIL Owner: Colleen Blair *Cornish Rex red mink bi-colour* (155 points)

Reserve: NAREIRA HEATHCLIFF Owner: Di & Brad Stokes *Somali tawny* (89 points)

COMPANION: 1st place: LADY FERN Owners: Danielle & Thomas Clewett-Dang
Chocolate mackerel tabby & white (79 points)

Reserve: JONESY owners: Christine & Peter Gunczy
red mackerel tabby & white (32 points)



GROUP 1 plus overall COTY winner:

ROYALGLAMOUR CLOUD NYNE

Owners: Tony & Jeanine Brown

Persian blue bi-colour

For background information refer to page 33

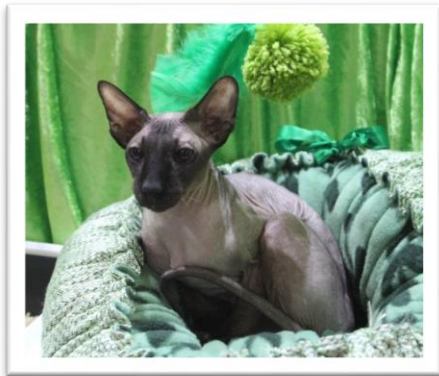


GROUP 2 overall winner:

MURMURELLIUS ELISEY

Owners: Helena & Aaron Sugar

Peterbald seal point

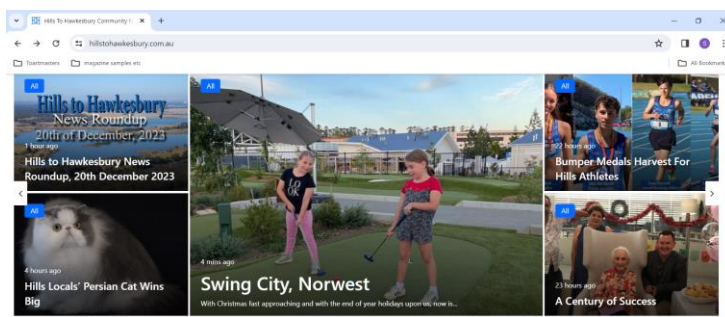


The Peterbald is a relatively new breed of cat created in St Petersburg, Russia in 1994. The breed was accepted for Championship status in 2009. They were the result of an experimental mating of a 'Don Sphynx' (*also known as Don Hairless, Donskoy or Donsky*) male Afinogen Myth and an Oriental shorthair who was a world champion named Radma von Jagerhov. There were four Peterbalds produced in the first two litters which became the foundation stock of this unique breed of cat.

Peterbalds are elegant dainty cat resembling an Oriental in body type. They have a dominant hair-losing gene inherited from the Don Sphynx, and can be born bald, flocked, velour, brush, or with a straight coat. Those born with hair, excepting the straight coats, can lose their hair over time. They come in all colours and markings.

Peterbalds like other Group 2 cats are sweet-tempered, affectionate, curious, intelligent, and energetic. They are medium vocal and tend to follow their owners and want to be with them.





Hills Locals' Persian Cat Wins Big

© 5 hours ago



Long term Hills employees Tony and Jeanie Brown's pet Persian cat 'Royal Glamour Cloud Nyne' has been awarded Supreme Cat of the Year at the recent Cats NSW prestigious awards function which was held at North Richmond Panthers on 26th November. He has now been awarded Best Group One cat for two consecutive years.

Cloud Nyne is a desexed Persian cat and it was a dream they had to breed their very own champion cat although it never entered their minds that the cat would go so far. Jeanine and Tony are boutique registered Breeders specialising in Persians. Jeanine in the past had much success showing and breeding dogs, the medium breed called 'Chow Chows' and then decided to commence showing and breeding the Persian cat. At the time it was very difficult to obtain a show quality kitten as there weren't many around for sale.

Cloud Nyne's mother 'Greencroft Justa Duchess' won outright Supreme cat at the Sydney Royal 2023. At the time of purchasing Duchess, they were hoping to breed a blue and white male from this litter which Jeanine and Tony achieved with Cloud Nyne. Jeanine said showing a Persian takes a lot of time and dedication, it's a bit of a full-time job trying to keep a long-haired cat groomed and maintained to perfection for the show ring.

The earliest written history of the Persian cat dates back to the early 1500s although some believe the Persian might be even older. They are believed to have originated in Mesopotamia, later called Persia where the name comes from, which is now modern-day Iran. Queen Victoria owned several Persian cats and the breed found their way to the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. It was one of the first purebred cats to come to Australia.

The Australian Cat Federation along with Cats NSW will be holding an Australia-wide two-day prestigious [Cat Show on 8th and 9th June at the Hawkesbury Showground](#). You will be able to see award-winning 'Royalglamour Cloud Nyne' along with his glamorous mother 'Greencroft Justa Duchess' competing there. There will be all breeds of pedigree cats on display along with the common domestic cat, which will come from all over Australia to compete. It was last held in Sydney 2019 and there were nearly 370 cats and kittens entered. It is an excellent day out to see all the different varieties of breeds and to speak to many Breeders. There will also be stalls and all sorts of fun things to do on the day.

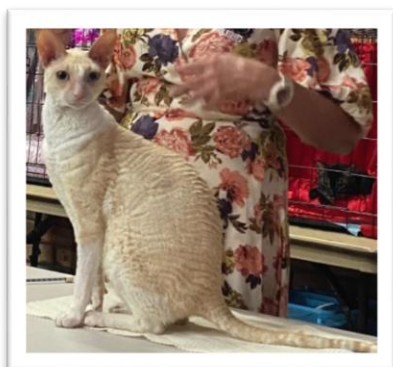
Extracted on: 20 Dec '23



Group 3 overall winner:

AWAYFARR BASIL

Owner & story written by: Colleen Blair
Cornish Rex Red mink bi-colour



Awayfarr Basil was bred by Hazel & Amelia Farraway. When my domestic cats were 17, I decided it was time to buy a kitten. My husband is allergic to cats, so I did some research to find a breed that may affect his allergies less, when I came across Cornish Rex. The antics I read about & the statement that they are clowns of the cat world, made me fall in love with the breed. I thought they would be a perfect fit for our household.

I contacted Hazel & went to visit her & have a look at her kittens, where I met Basil. I picked him up a few weeks later & he just fit perfectly into our household, he was boss in no time! Hazel had mentioned showing to me & had told me about it, but it was 2020, COVID times.

When it was time for my second Cornish Rex, I have always loved black cats, so found a breeder in Victoria, Sally Gordon, & bought my black smoke boy Brindie Mr Pepper from her. Sally also told me about shows & felt Pepper would be perfect.

I contacted Hazel again for more information about showing & she encouraged me to enter Basil & come along, so I entered my first show in March 2021, Cool Country Cat Club - Farewell To Summer Show, Basil was 11 months old. He did so well & really seemed to enjoy it, even being awarded Best In Group by Peta Sperduty at his first show (*refer to top RH photo*).

After that I attended regularly, & found Basil was born to be a show cat, he absolutely loves it & really plays up to the judges. He has now obtained Sapphire ACF AoE & Sapphire Double Grand Champion titles.

I have now taken the next step & I am breeding Cornish Rex under my prefix 'ScillyRex'. I look forward to having a new kitten on the bench this year that I have bred. In 2022 I started Steward training with Cats NSW & in 2023 became a fully qualified Steward, a role I am loving as I get to learn so much about all the different breeds, & meet the owners & cats.



NEWS from Cats NSW Show Committee

Cats NSW Show sub Committee members:
Helena Sugar, Rosemary Rogers & Renee Bont

The ADVANCE Sydney Royal Easter Show 2023

Open Championship Cat Show proudly presented by Cats NSW

Good Friday 29th March 2024 at Sydney Showground Sydney Olympic Park (*Homebush Precinct*) spectacular 4 ring show introducing the following Judges:

Introducing our special INTERNATIONAL JUDGE:



Ring 1: Asa Broing, TICA Sweden

Asa has been breeding cats since 1996 Bombay and (*American traditional typed*) Burmese under the Swedish Cattery name of: 'EbonyCatz'. She has also owned Siamese, Maine Coon, Norwegian Forest and the European Shorthair plus Domestic.

Her cats have been shown in different various organizations (GCCF, FIFe, Nordic Independent, TICA and WCF) since 1990 and she has been a licensed TICA Judge since 2012.

She is an approved All Breeds Judge. Asa has judged all around the world and since 2016 is the Chair of the Burmese and Bombay Breed Committee. She is looking forward to judging in Australia.



Introducing our special INTERSTATE JUDGES:

Ring 2: Janis Christison, QFA

Janis is an ACF Inc All Breeds International Judge and she has been judging since 1991. She regularly judges all over Australia and New Zealand and has judged overseas: Germany, the Netherlands, Malaysia, Sweden and South Africa. She is currently the President of Queensland Feline Association Inc (QFA), a position she previously held during 2015–2017 following her service as a Vice President from 2005.



Janis has been a Tutor Judge since 1999 and have always been very involved at Club level especially in the position of Show Manager. Over the years she has won many major awards including Group 1 Cat of Year awards in 1987, 1990 and 1998, each time with a blue Persian. Janis has recently won with both an Exotic and Russian neuter Desexed Cat of the Year awards.



Ring 3: Nick Tricarico, GCCFC

Nick is an All Breeds Judge with the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (Aust. & Vic) Inc. (GCCFV), currently affiliated with the ACF. He completed Group 2 in 1999 and Group 3 in 2002, followed by Group 1 in 2008.



Nick's breed interest is the British Shorthair and his wife, Cathy, they have been exhibiting and breeding this breed since 1994 under the prefix of 'Bevington'. They specialise in the colours of Orange-Eyed White, Black and Blue. They have bred a number of Best in Show and Cat of the Year winners and were GCCFV Group 3 Breeder of the Year winners in 2009.

He has undertaken numerous local and interstate assignments as well as New Zealand and judged at the CCCA National Shows in Brisbane in 2004 and in Melbourne in 2007, the World Cat Congress Show in Melbourne in 2010, as well as the New Zealand National Show in 2008.

Ring 4: Geoff Beckett, FCCA

2020 is the landmark for Geoff with 52 years membership of the FCC Victoria, having joined in 1968. Geoff has held a judging licence since 1974 and has been an FCCV All Breeds Judge since 1992.



An interest in exhibition animals and in particular Siamese, British, Persians and Cavalier King Charles Spaniels has been an obsession for most of his life

From a summer holiday job he saved for my first pedigree cat, a bluepoint Siamese. He entered her in the Lilydale Show of 1968, with little success, the number of Siamese entries were significant then and the seeds were sown for this life long journey into the world of cats.

Judging has taken him all over Australia, to many of the nation's Royal Shows, even more prestigious Club Shows and many shows in New Zealand. He was previously on the Management Team and was Show Manager for many great shows with the Shorthair Cat Club and past Chair of the FCCV Judges Association.

For further information contact Helena Sugar arolena6@bigpond.com.



<https://www.eastershow.com.au/>





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PROWLING INTO SYDNEY

the..... 52nd ACF National Show

Australia-wide two-day prestigious Cat Show on 8th and 9th June at the Hawkesbury Showground, Sydney.

Introducing our *INTERNATIONAL JUDGES*:



Michael Hans Schleissner, CFA GERMANY



Michael has judged throughout Europe plus North America, Asia and Africa for nearly 30 years. His journey into the cat world came about way back in 1982 when he saw a picture of a white Persian cat in a

book. He knew then that was the type of cat he wanted to own. That was his first pedigree cat and it started him on a lifelong journey into the unique world of cats.

They are very proud of having produced 54 CFA grands, 3 homebred National Winners, and Breed Winners in both the Brits and the Selkirks.

He resides in the southwest of Germany, close to the border of France. Right in the middle wine country. In his spare time he not only shows cats but since he was eight years old has bred and still shows canaries. He still breeds cats under the 'Atzelhof' prefix including Selkirk Rex and both British and American Shorthairs. **Judging Group 1 & 4.**



Chloe Chung, CFA HONG KONG



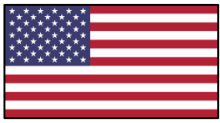
Born in Beijing, China, Chloe moved to Hong Kong when she just was 10 months old. She entered her first cat show in 2002, began breeding British Shorthairs, and in 2007 had her first home-bred National Winner

of her own breeding. As a ring clerk she became interested in many other breeds and showed American Curls, American Shorthairs, Colorpoint Shorthairs, Exotics, Maine Coons, Persians, Russian Blues and Sphynx to various wins.

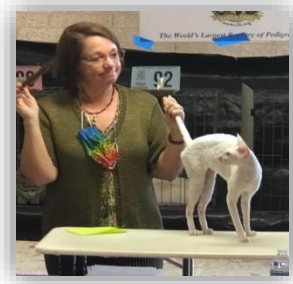
In 2010 Chloe applied to the CFA Judging Program, and since then has traveled throughout Europe, Asia, Malaysia and the United States as a CFA judge. Her 'Chloeadores' cattery continues produce top-quality British Shorthairs.

Chloe graduated from China Agriculture University, and she now lectures on cat behavior, nutrition, medical care and breed standards, splitting her time between Hong Kong and Liaoning, in mainland China. **Judging Group 1 & 4.**





Jennifer Reding, CFA USA



She obtained her first pedigreed breeding cat, a Birman, in 1988, and her first Japanese Bobtail, a neuter, in 1990. By 1991 she acquired a Japanese Bobtail to breed with, and had both for several years, breeding under the prefix 'Janipurr'.

Jennifer showed both CFA and TICA at first, having numerous Grand Champions and Supreme Grand Champions and even a TICA International Winner, but decided to stick with CFA by the mid 90s, and since then has had numerous Grands, Regional Winners, National Breed winners, and a few National Winners.

She registered up a new cattery name 'Ginchika' in order to breed silver and smoke Japanese Bobtails, a colour which was accepted but as yet had not obtained any wins. 'Ginchika' had numerous firsts in the silver/smoke division: Grand, Regional Winner, Breed Winner, National Winner, Distinguished Merit. Ginchika has over 100 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers in CFA, and has been awarded a Tier 3 Superior title.

Jennifer has also bred Oriental Shorthair, having bred the first Bicolour OSH to Grand in CFA. She has shown Cornish Rex, Singapura, Colorpoint Shorthair, Abyssinian, British Shorthair, Himalayan, Persian, Exotic and Maine Coon. She has judged all over the United States, and in South Korea and Malaysia. . **Judging Group 2 & 3.**



Helene Lis, FIFe Sweden



Helene Lis is a member of SVERAK (*Swedish Cat Association*) that belongs to FIFe (*Federation Feline International*). She was on the Board of SVERAK and had responsibility for Judges and Student Judges.

She has been a FIFe All-breed Judge since 2019. She breeds the 'ocicat' and her Cattery name is 'S*Lis-Katt'. Helene owned the first ocicat in Scandinavia which took out the title of FIFe Junior Winner. She chose this breed as she liked, the pattern, short coat, and muscle tone: the athletic look. She has also shown the European Shorthair.

Helen is out busy judging at least 2 weekends of every month. In the FIFe Cat Fancy, she is known as the 'leopard judge' because a lot of the time she wears something with spots on it. Helene has also judged many times in Asia and Europe and is looking forward to coming to Australia. **Judging Group 2 & 3.**





Nick Pun, CFA HONG KONG

Nick is born and raised in Hong Kong, where he still resides. He attended graduate school in Canada, where he was first exposed to the cat fancy. He began showing in both CFA and CCA with his first show cat, a Scottish Fold.



Nick commenced his 'Dragonhill' Cattery, in 1997: the focus on Longhair and Shorthair Folds. However, he soon branched out into other breeds and has now worked with American Shorthairs, Ocicats, and recently, British Shorthairs and Japanese Bobtails. *Dragonhill* has produced numerous Grands, Divisional Winners (*the Hong Kong equivalent of a Regional Win*) and National Winners. One of Nick's British Shorthairs was CFA's Kitten of the Year in the Hong Kong Division for 2018-2019.

Outside his breeding programs, Nick has exhibiting experience with many other breeds, including Abyssinians, Devon Rex, Russian Blues, Siamese, and Somalis. He exhibited the first Turkish Angora ever shown in Hong Kong and enjoys introducing and promoting new breeds there. Other longhair breeds he has exhibited include Exotics, Persians, Birmans, Ragdolls, and Maine Coons.

Judging Group 1 & 4.



Michelle McGrath, New Zealand Cat Fancy

Michelle resides close to Mount Taranaki near the coastal town of Oakura, New Plymouth Taranaki, New Zealand. She has bred/owned: Siamese/Oriental, Bengal, Sphynx, Persian and domestic



She has held a number of club positions including Shorthair Registrar, Breeds Standard Council and Breed Representative, and Committee member.

She commenced judging cats in 2007 and then qualified in 2018, as an All Breeds Judge licensed with the New Zealand Cat Fancy. **Judging Group 2 & 3.**



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Paul Henry, New Zealand Cat Fancy



Paul commenced breeding and showing Birmans about 1985-6. He was the President of the Birman Cat Club for a few years and held other positions as well

He became a long hair Judge in 2019 and then qualified for an All Breeds Judge in 2018.

He bred the Best Longhair Kitten in NZ in 1999 with Preference Fashion Hint and then branched out into Persians and Exotics. He has judged all over NZ and in most Australian States and is looking forward to judging our fabulous cats and kittens. **Judging Group 1 & 4.**



Introducing our INTERSTATE AUSTRALIAN JUDGES:

Barbara La Rocca, QFA

Barbara became an All Breeds Judge in 1998 with QFA and she has judged throughout Australia and New Zealand plus overseas in Kuala Lumpur, Germany and the Netherlands. In 2017 Barbara returned as President of QFA Inc. She was past President from 2002-2015. She is President of Burmese Cat Fanciers Club of Qld and the President of the Gold Coast Cat Club. **Judging Group 2 & 3.**



Nadine Savage, QFA

Nadine entered the Cat Fancy in 1997 and started showing desexed Persians but her love of cats commenced when she was 4 years old when she was given a Persian by her Aunty. Nadine and her husband Luke were granted their prefix 'Shonstar' in 2000 and began breeding Persians in 2001.



Since then Nadine's cats have won many Best in Show awards including Desexed Cat of the Year and Supreme Exhibits at national level. Nadine began her judges training with QICC becoming a Companion Cat Judge in 2002. She later began Group 1 training which was completed with QFA Inc, 2007. Nadine has judged in NSW as well as Queensland. **Judging Group 1 & 4.**



Marissa Thistlewaite, QFA

Marisa is an All Breeds International Judge attaining her Group 1 licence in 2008 and then her Group 2 & 3 licence in 2013 with QFA. She has judged in all states in Australia, in New Zealand and a Guest Judge for CFA. She entered the Cat Fancy in 1991 breeding Birmans under the prefix '*Belshogar*'. For many years she showed Birmans and a Persian neuter with many COTY and National awards.



She now breeding and showing Burmese. Marisa has always been involved in different facets of the Cat Fancy from Show Manager and Secretary, at a council level held positions of Vice President, Registrar, and Treasurer. She held the position of Treasurer for the Birman Club for many years and was honoured with Life Membership. **Judging Group 1 & 4.**

Kerry Fowler, GCCFV

Kerry is a fully qualified All Breeds Judge with GCCFV and ACF, having completed training with FCCV for Group 3 license in 1995, Group 1 in 2004, plus Group 2 in January 2013. She has been fortunate to have judged in all eight major States and Territories of Australia, as well as the North and South Islands of New Zealand.



In 2014 and 2022, she was honoured with judging All Breeds at the prestigious Sydney Royal Shows as well as the Royal Melbourne Cat Shows in 2014, 2015 and 2017. Kerry also judged shorthair cats at the esteemed ACF National Show in 2017 and she was a Supreme Ring Judge for the 2021 GCCFV Virtual Show.

Her introduction to the cat fancy was through successfully owning, exhibiting, and breeding silver spotted British Shorthair cats under the '*Cornfield*' prefix for over ten years. Kerry's British cats have won multiple Supreme and Cat of the Year awards. She is an ACF Tutor Judge and a Committee Member on the ACF Breeding and Registration Rules sub-committee. Kerry is an author, International Speaker, Initiator, and a member of CCCA working party to establish Feline Health Research Fund: <http://fhrf.org.au>. **Judging Group 2.**

ABOUT ACF (INC.) The Australian Cat Federation (Inc.) is a National Governing body with affiliates in all States, Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. The ACF has endeavoured over the years to bring uniformity to the cat fancy in various key areas which have an effect on cat breeding and cat showing. **CATS NSW is** a cat governing body in New South Wales and the ACT and proudly affiliated with the Australian Cat Federation Inc. CATS NSW is a progressive, welcoming, non-profit organisation and our key mission is to promote the welfare of all cats, responsible and ethical breeding of pedigreed cats, and the showing of pedigreed cats and de-sexed domestic cats. As a governing body, CATS NSW offers its Clubs and breeders advice and guidance where possible.



Carole Gali, Cats WA

Carole began breeding Burmese cats in 2000 after falling in love with a very nortie brown tortie. She loved the O gene colours and bred reds and creams in particular along with the torties. Then in 2003 she met her first Burmilla and fell in love with their delightful temperament and silver coats.



She applied for an experimental program to breed Burmillas, beginning with the foundation matings between Burmese and Chinchilla. Working with two other breeders she was able to add higher generation Burmillas into the program. Carole specialises in short hair Burmillas and occasionally breeds a long hair litter. She has bred the Burmilla in all colours including the O Gene series. In 2011 she included the Mandalay into her breeding program. She became an All Shorthair Judge in June 2018 and I commenced Group One training in 2017. She has judged in Malaysia. **Judging Group 2 & 3.**

52nd ACF National Cat Show: EVENTS TIMETABLE

ALL FUNCTIONS TO BE HELD AT:

Crowne Plaza Hawkesbury Valley,
61 Hawkesbury Valley Way, Windsor NSW 2756

WELCOME FUNCTION:

Friday 7th June: 7.00 - 8.00pm

NATIONAL SHOW:

Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June

Benching: 6.15 – 8.15 am

President opens show: 8:30 am

Supreme Panel Sunday 9th at 3.00 pm

NATIONAL SHOW DINNER:

Sunday 9th June: 7.30 for 8.00 pm

JUDGES GUILD AGM

Monday 10th June

1.30 – 5.00 pm

All Breeders, Exhibitors & Judges welcome

ACF Inc AGM & GM

Tuesday 11th June at 8.30 am

Observers welcome



Profile on a Breed: THE RAGDOLL

The 'ACCIDENTAL' Ragdoll Breeder by: Rebekah Darmody



My life has been very diverse, but a constant was my love, care, and compassion for animals big or small.

I was drawn to the Ragdoll breed after I visited a friend's house who had a seal point Ragdoll and from that moment I was hooked, I came home, researched everything I could about the Ragdoll breed. I had only ever had rescue cats which I adored but when my last domestic passed away, my friends asked my husband if they could 'buy' me a Ragdoll for my birthday as I had done so much for their family, he said sure.

That was the start of my journey of discovery, passion and Affinity with this wonderful Breed. *(Now you know why my Cattery Name is AFFINITY)*. I was given the opportunity to select a kitten from a Registered Ragdoll Breeder *(who has long since retired)*. I chose a seal point kitten, and named him: Branston. He came to me desexed, fully vaccinated, microchipped and with a registered pedigree. I decided to join an Cat Association and was invited to come along and show Branston, which I did, I was fascinated and wanted to know more about shows and this breed of cat.

I started showing Branston as a neutered kitten and he won ribbons and awards. I ended up on the Committee of that Cat Association. I was then approached by the President and asked if I had ever given any thought to becoming a Breeder for the 'Ragdoll' breed. I answered 'no' but then said 'I'll do some research and get back to you' which I did with a 'yes'.

Well, it's now 15 years later, and I have never regretted a moment of my journey. The pedigree cats that I started my breeding journey with have given me a great foundation and stepping stone to further breed to the 'standard' but most importantly the 'temperament'. My beautiful foundation Queen: Tiffany was a loving, gentle soft soul, a seal tortie bi-color, who gave me a variety of different colours and types to continue her line of wonderful temperaments.

Tiffany's great-great granddaughter: Amelia, currently only 5 weeks old will debut at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.



*Photos show:
top and bottom left:
AFFINITY Ragdolls &
right: Rebekah RH side
holding one of the
Ragdoll cats she bred.*



HISTORY of a Breed: THE RAGDOLL

by: **Sandra Sweetman**

The Ragdoll is a cat that has distinct pointed coloration (*where the body is lighter than the face, ears, legs, and tail*), large round blue eyes, soft, thick coats, thick limbs, long tails, and soft bodies. Their colour rings are commonly tricolour or bicolour.

They are part of Group 1 and should be large and weighty with a semi-long and silky soft coat. They are best known for their docile, placid temperament and affectionate nature. The name '*Ragdoll*' was derived as the original breeding stock tends to go limp and relaxed when picked up.

This breed has a very interesting history that goes back to Ann Baker in California, 1963. She worked in a Laundromat and her next-door neighbour was the owner and had 40-50 semi-feral cats living on her farm property. One was a white '*Angora-type*' cat named Josephine. Ann had been '*borrowing*' Blackie, a black Persian-looking cat, from her neighbour for breeding. Ann got very interested in the calm and placid nature of Josephine.

Ann acquired '*Raggedy Ann Buckwheat*', a daughter of Josephine and Blackie, and '*Raggedy Ann Fugianna*', a daughter of Josephine and '*Daddy Warbucks*' who was a son of Josephine). From here, '*Raggedy Ann Buckwheat*' was mated with '*Daddy Warbucks*' (*her father via stud service*), and their offspring were mated together, or with other offspring of Josephine's, and the core foundation cats were expanded.



Josephine was protective of her litter of kittens, and attacked the family dog, resulting in the owner putting her to sleep. Ann Baker then went on to split kittens from Fugianna as '*the light side*', whilst those from Buckwheat were termed '*the dark side*'.



Ann registered the '*Ragdoll*' name and set up a franchise where she sold offspring from a cross of Fugianna and Tiki, requiring line breeding for seven generations, never using male offspring for breeding, only the male initially purchased. After seven generations they had to use another direct son of Josephine's.





In 1969, Laura and Denny Dayton purchased cats from Ann Baker, 'Raggedy Ann Buddy' (a seal colourpoint male) their first stud boy, and *Raggedy Ann Rosie* (a seal mitted female). They bred under the prefix 'Blossom Time' and the offspring were named after plants, flowers etc. Over time they fell out with Ann Baker who wanted royalty payments for every ragdoll sold and there were ongoing legal battles. Other breeders purchasing cats from Ann Baker had similar experiences which made them step away from the breed, and the Daytons were able to acquire their cats. Joshua, Lolita, Miss Chef and Little Orphan Annie were acquired in this manner.

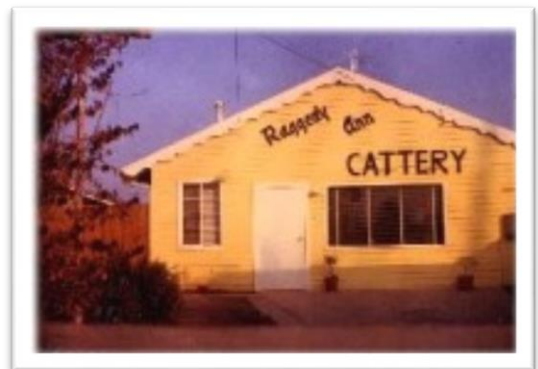
In September 1975, ten years after Ann Baker registered her Ragdoll breed, she put a patent on Ragdolls, on three patterns (*colourpoint, mitted, and bicolour*) and on the four colours (*seal, blue, chocolate and lilac*).



Later, red, tortie, and lynx marked Ragdolls were introduced by Breeders by outcrossing with another breed to introduce the colours and patterns.

These are registered in all Cat Associations and accepted for championship status.

In 1981 the Ragdoll breed came to the UK. Pat Brownsell and Lulu Rowley both from Norwich acquired cats from the Dayton's Blossom Time cattery. The British Ragdoll Club was founded in 1987 by Sue Ward-Smith, a Ragdoll breeder under the prefix 'Pandapaws'. Sue was also instrumental in getting ragdolls accepted into GCCF in March 1990.



THE FIRST RAGDOLLS CAME TO AUSTRALIA IN NOVEMBER 1989.



UPCOMING NEWS for next issue



If you would like to contribute an article, story, photo of your kitten/cats/litters etc or if you have any suggestions for future articles for 'Cat Chat' magazine please contact the Editor: Sandra Sweetman email: catchatmagazine@gmail.com
Note: updated email address

Our next issue will be out in: July 2024 and along with all the regular features and stories we will feature:

our breed focus: Group 1: PERSIAN & EXOTIC cats



Photo above: **CHAINOPONDS U LOVE ME**

Blue Cream Bi-colour Pure Persian. Breeder: Rosemary Rogers RH side holding Chainofponds U Love Me

Some of July's article/story focus will be on:

- ◆ Four tips for a happy indoor cat.
 - ◆ 8 things you should never do when adopting a cat.
 - ◆ Could you feed your cat on a vegan diet?
 - ◆ How early is too early to desex kittens?
 - ◆ Can cats eat eggs,
- plus all the usual stories and surprises.*

Deadlines for:

July, 2024 issue: by the 18th May, 2024
December, 2024: by the 18th October, 2024



APPLICATION FOR JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



I (First Name)		Surname	
Residential Address			
Home Phone	Mobile	Birth Date (day/month/year)	
Email Address			

Signature of Applicant Date

Parent or Guardian MUST complete the following sections

I (First Name)		Surname	
Home Phone		Mobile	
Email Address			

Release and Waiver

I agree and consent to my child as named above becoming a participant in the Junior Development Program.
I hereby release, discharge and waive any suit, action, claim or any other proceeding of any nature that might otherwise be brought against Cats NSW Incorporated or any affiliate, judge, steward, official or any person acting on behalf of Cats NSW Inc. regarding any injury or illness arising or alleged to have arisen in any manner whatsoever out of my child's participation in the Cats NSW Junior Development Program. I voluntarily execute this Release and Waiver in full knowledge and appreciation that my child will, during his/her participation in the program, be exposed to and will handle cats, and will be in show halls in the presence of many people and cats. I also fully understand that the execution of this Release and Waiver is a condition of my child's participation in the program.

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

Publicity Release

I authorise Cats NSW Inc, the Cats NSW Inc Junior Development program, or their assignees to record and photograph my child's image and/or voice for use in research, educational programs and promotional programs. I also recognise that these audio, video and image recordings are the property of Cats NSW Inc, and the Cats NSW Junior Development Program.
I understand and accept that use of these audio, video and image recordings are without remuneration or compensation to the Applicant nor his/her Parent/Guardian.

Signature of Parent/Guardian Date

