

THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA  
MEMBER AND SUPPORTER PUBLICATION

APRIL 2021

# NINE LIVES

*2020 Annual Report*





# The Cat Protection Society of Victoria

## Annual General Meeting

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Wednesday 26th of May commencing at 7.30pm in the Delphine McCormack Meeting Room at the Society, 200 Elder St Greensborough 3088. We would encourage as many of our valued members to attend as possible.

To confirm your attendance, please email [jodie@catprotection.com.au](mailto:jodie@catprotection.com.au) or phone 03 8457 6500 (and request to speak to our Membership Manager) before 4pm on Friday 14th May, 2021.

If you are unable to attend and would like to nominate a proxy to vote on your behalf, please complete and return the below proxy notification form to our Society prior to Friday 14th May, 2021.

I \_\_\_\_\_  
Of \_\_\_\_\_  
Being a Member of The Cat Protection Society of Victoria hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_  
Of \_\_\_\_\_

Who is an eligible Cat Protection Society of Victoria Member as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 26th May commencing at 7.30pm and at any adjournment thereafter.

The proxy is hereby authorized to vote \*in favour / \*against the following resolutions: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of member \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: In the event of a member desiring to vote for or against any resolution, they must instruct their proxy accordingly.  
Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy may vote as they see fit.  
\*strike out which is not desired.*

Please cut out and return your completed proxy form before Friday 14th May, 2021 to:

Ian Crook  
CEO The Cat Protection Society  
PO Box 257  
Greensborough, VIC 3088

# **The Cat Protection Society of Victoria**

## **2020 Annual General Meeting Agenda**

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Wednesday 26th of May commencing at 7.30pm in the Delphine McCormack Meeting Room at the Society, 200 Elder St Greensborough 3088

1. PRESENT
2. APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM HELD ON THE 27TH MAY, 2020
4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
5. CEO'S REPORT
6. THE 2020 ANNUAL BALANCE SHEET & ACCOUNTS FOR CONSIDERATION & ADOPTION
7. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS
  - a. Ronen Atzmon and Ian Crook both retire and offer themselves for re-election to the Board in accordance with Clause 15.3.1b
8. SPECIAL BUSINESS
9. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS
  - Findex be reappointed as the Society's auditors for the 2021 financial year

Please RSVP to the Society – PO Box 257, Greensborough VIC 3088  
or email: [jodie@catprotection.com.au](mailto:jodie@catprotection.com.au) – to advise attendance  
by 4pm Friday 14th May, 2021



# Thank you

Whilst 2020 was a particularly challenging year for so many, it was also the year that The Cat Protection Society celebrated a significant milestone in the Society's 70+ year history: finally opening the doors to our much-anticipated Adoption Shelter and Veterinary Clinic which is now proudly Victoria's largest shelter dedicated just to cats.

The opening of this new facility means that our Society can provide short term care and re-home up to 2500 cats every year (compared to approx. 1400 previously) and can offer expanded feline veterinary services to the local community. The facility will also allow our Society to introduce more programs and initiatives to help encourage responsible cat ownership and raise the profile of cats as companion animals.

As a not for profit animal welfare organisation that receives no government funding, this exciting milestone was only made possible due to the

generous donations of our supporters and members just like you, and for that, we could not be more grateful.

We are so incredibly excited about what the future holds for The Cat Protection Society of Victoria and what we will be able to continue to achieve together. Thank you for your continued support, we think you are just wonderful.

*The team at The Cat Protection Society of Victoria*

## How far we have come



The Cat Protection Society Ambulance that patrolled the city streets looking for stray and sick cats (1953) purchased by the Society's 600 Members



The courtyard of The Cat Protection Society Shelter in 1972



Our Shelter exterior in 1985



Adult adoption pens in the 1980's

## 2020 in a nut-shell

**965**

**CATS & KITTENS  
REHOMED**

**366**

**CATS & KITTENS SPENT  
TIME IN OUR FOSTER  
CARE PROGRAM**

**1337**

**CATS & KITTENS  
DESEXED**

**2898**

**CATS & KITTENS  
VISITED OUR  
PRIVATE VET CLINIC**



# A purrfect life

With your support, these cats and kittens (all of whom spent time at our new adoption shelter) have been adopted into their purrfect furever home, providing them with their second chance to be loved and cared for.







# An update from from Ian Crook: Our CEO

## 2020: A Year Like No Other

### 1. Introduction

I welcome you to this year's AGM and the Annual Report for Financial year 2020.

2020 was a very challenging year for the Society. Covid restricted access for both staff, clients and customers to our temporary facilities. However we were able to continue to provide adoption and clinical services on an appointment only basis. Demand for adoptions soared during the lockdown periods and at times we were not able to meet this demand.

Staff were split into teams to provide backup should a suspected Covid infection force staff into quarantine. Fortunately implementation of the Covid management plan was not required. The Society qualified for Job Keeper payments for part of the year which meant no staff were financially disadvantaged by operational restrictions.

The building programme was slowed by site restrictions, but finally we were able to relocate to our new facilities in early November.

My report will update you on further changes and progress that has occurred throughout 2020 including an update on progress in relation to the strategic priorities of the Society.

### 2. Our Vision

The staff at CPSV have continued to uphold the CPSV Vision of a community in which all cats are valued and respected as companion animals and have a high standard of welfare and wellbeing. Consideration is being given to removing the word "companion" from both the Society's Vision and Mission statements to allow the Society to broaden its activities in regard to the welfare of cats in the wider community

### 3. Our Mission

To actively promote, protect and improve the welfare and wellbeing of companion cats through shelter and clinical services and public awareness and education, in line with broadening our

activities to include the welfare of cats and kittens in the wider community. The Society wishes to place more emphasis on the causes of the stray cat populations in communities, rather than to simply respond to the symptoms of inappropriate cat ownership.

### 4. Strategic Objectives

The 2019-2021 strategy contained four strategic priorities for the Society. Progress against these priorities in 2019 was achieved as planned, but the disruptions associated with 2020 delayed further progress. In 2021 the Society plans to achieve the original 2020 targets.

A strategic planning session will set priorities for 2022 - 2024. It is expected that additional strategic priorities will be added to the existing ones, listed below, to reflect a broadening of the Society's Vision and Mission.

- Maintaining appropriate CPSV values and behaviors, staff development and performance appraisal.
- Enhancing the public profile of CPSV
- Growth of existing services including adoptions, retail sales and private clinic services.
- Diversification of revenue sources.

### 5. Shelter Statistics

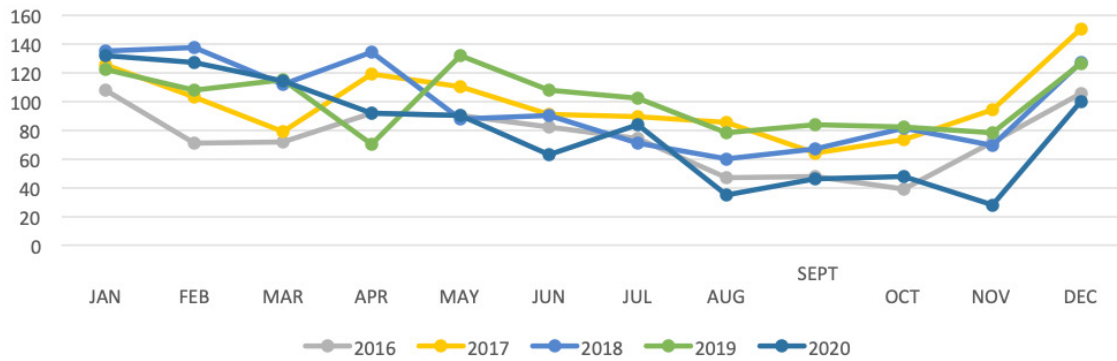
The constraints of Covid added to the continuing operation from temporary facilities during most of 2020 and resulted in adoptions being slightly down on previous years. 1202 cats and kittens were received by the shelter. However rehoming and reclaim rates were higher than previous years and the euthanasia rate continued to fall.

The number of cats held at the shelter remained low due to advanced veterinary and management practices.

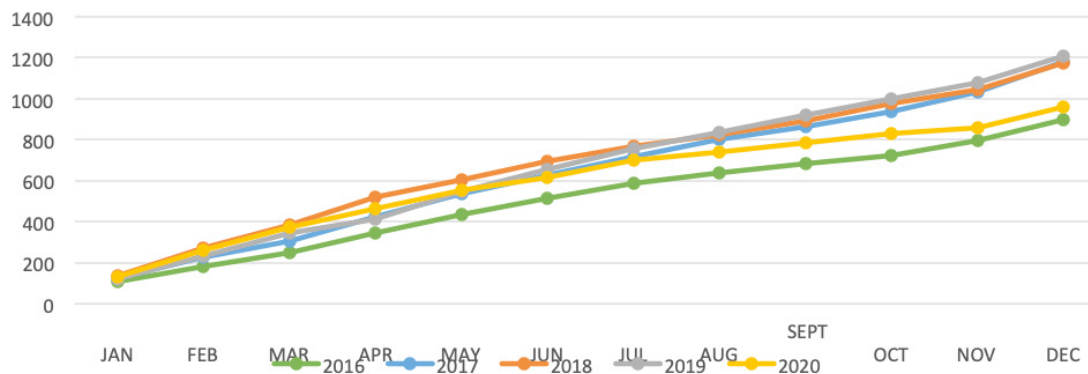
Private patient consultation increased in 2020 providing a significant client base for the operation of the clinic in the new facilities.



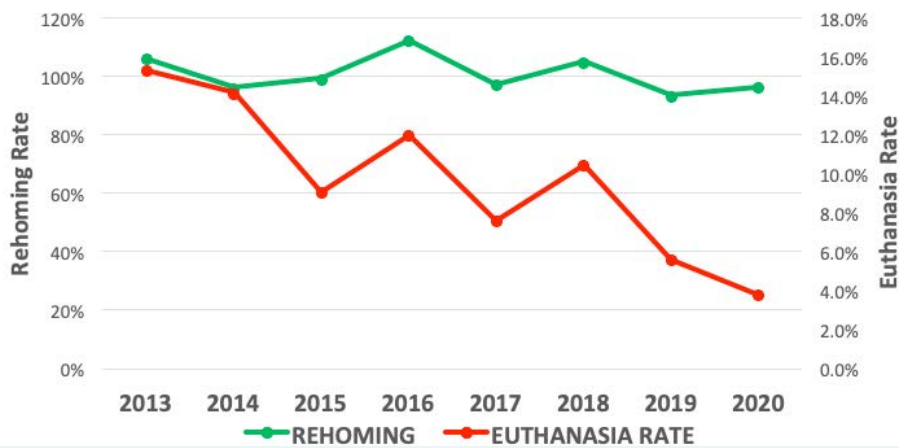
### ADOPTIONS 2016-20



### ADOPTIONS YTD 2016-2020



### EUTHANASIA & REHOMING RATES



## 6. Staff

Dr Peta Keown was employed during the year as the Society's Senior Veterinarian. Dr Keown was ably assisted by three part time veterinarians. The new facilities have permitted the expansion of the Society's adoption team to provide a better level of customer service.

Jodie Kuriata was appointed The Society's Fundraising Manager during the year to expand our donor base. This has resulted in the development of a Regular Giving Program and the formation of Jarrah's Circle to acknowledge and encourage major donors.

## 7. CPS Profile

During 2020 the Society made significant use of electronic communication to keep our community engaged and social media to increase awareness and profile the Society. The website continues to be an important source of information. There were over 120000 new users of the website in 2020. 300000+ Facebook users engaged with the Society's content. The marketing database now exceeds 12000 subscribers providing an opportunity for expanding online donations and sales which increased significantly from a small base in 2020.

## 8. Governance

Throughout 2020 appropriate resource continued to be allocated to ensure proper financial management and risk management. Several new policies were approved by the Board and an audit of existing policies and identification of desirable additional policies is taking place.

An unqualified audit has been completed for 2020. Perpetual Ltd continued to provide financial advice in regard to funding the new shelter/clinic and optimising CPSV's investment portfolio now that the building is complete. The CPSV Perpetual long-term portfolio had a gross return of -1.81% in 2020 and an average of 4.05% over the past three years. These returns were adversely impacted by the pandemic in 2020.

The Board formed a Finance Audit and Risk Committee in 2020 to oversee budgeting, reporting, our auditing processes and to revise our Risk Register.

## 9. Financial Performance

The EBITDA for the Society in 2020 was in line with budget. Operating revenue was slightly below budget due to the impact of limited shelter access on adoptions and merchandise sales. Total expenses were above budget due to ongoing portable accommodation hire charges and wages. Interest income was significantly above budgets due to delays in building expenditure. Legacy income was as expected.

Federal Government Covid support payments helped to offset declines in operating revenue and donations and increased wages due to staff rostering during lock down periods

## 10. New Shelter

The Society commenced operations in the new facilities in early November 2020. The transition was relatively seamless though the layout and scale of the new building has required some changes in procedures and protocols

The new facilities are very functional and compliant. Gold standard accreditation is expected for the private clinic and the shelter complies with all aspects of the relevant Code.

## 11. Conclusion

All is now set to build on the Society's well established base. The awareness and profile of CPSV has been significantly enhanced by our social media presence and marketing programs. The initial response to proactive fundraising has been encouraging.

**I would like to especially thank the staff for their commitment and perseverance throughout the Covid pandemic and their willingness to continue to operate from temporary facilities throughout these challenging times. I would also like to thank the Board for their continuing advice and support during 2020.**





# An update from Ronen Atzmon

## Our Cat Protection Society Board President

Welcome to the 2021 AGM for the Cat Protection Society of Victoria. Overall the 2020 calendar year has been successful for the Society in spite of the restrictions imposed by the Covid lockdowns and the continuation of operations from temporary premises throughout the year. The patience and understanding of all our clients, our adopters and the hard work and dedication of the staff was key to this success.

Strategically the Society is considering broadening its Vision and Mission of ensuring the welfare and wellbeing of cats beyond that of companion animals. Consequently The Society is now considering how to devote more resources towards the causes and regulation of the stray cat population, in addition to continuing to provide shelter and clinical services whilst reinforcing the benefits of companion animals.

**Existing strategic objectives have been reviewed and confirmed as follows:**

- People and culture.
- Growth of existing services.
- Financial sustainability.
- Development of the CPS profile.

**New strategic objectives have been added:**

- Being a voice for cats
- Strengthening organizational governance

These priorities in part reflect the need for the Society to become more visible in the community and an agent for change.

The advent of the new building will provide a much improved adoption experience and expanded retail services. The building will be much more conducive for staff and volunteers and for activities like education, training and fundraising.

The Society is hoping to be able to partner with other animal welfare organisations to work with cats with behavioral issues to improve their chances of rehoming.

Financially the Society remains in a strong position and has adequate reserves to meet the impact of unexpected events like those of 2020. Now that the building is complete the Society

will review its investment strategy given that the short term requirement for construction funds is no longer needed.

The Society has embarked on two initiatives to increase donations and bequests. A Regular Giving Program was commenced in 2020 aimed at increasing the number and frequency of regular donations. Recently Jarrah's Circle was launched. Jarrah's Circle is a cohort of like minded people who have been significant donors to the Society. The purpose of Jarrah's Circle is to keep those involved aware of the Society's work and needs and provide them with the opportunity to be involved in Society events.

Society membership is set to be reviewed to ensure that existing Members continue to see benefits in membership and that membership categories are reflective of the needs of future members and those of the Society.

I am confident that new shelter, clinic and the dedicated staff will ensure that the Society achieves the strategic objectives set out in the current three year plan and beyond. I am also confident that the Society's awareness will be increased amongst the cat community and its reputation protected.

I would like to thank all those who have involved themselves with the Society during a most challenging year. Your hard work, professionalism, teamwork, dedication, volunteer support and generosity have been absolutely critical to the Society's success.

I particularly wish to acknowledge the effort of staff in successfully completing the new building and the Society's Board Members who have contributed their skills, experience and wisdom to the Board over the past year.





## Help us celebrate **OUR NEW HOME!**

For over 70 years, The Cat Protection Society of Victoria has been caring for and rehoming cats in need. Our work has been made possible thanks to the generosity of people like you, and we are so grateful for your support.

We have recently opened the doors to Victoria's largest dedicated shelter just for cats. Our new facility will greatly improve our ability to care for cats in need now and into the future, and we would love for you to help us celebrate.

This new home includes:

- An upgraded adoption shelter that will allow us to care for up to 300 cats and kittens at any one time and rehome over 2,000 each year
- A feline dedicated vet clinic that is open to the local community
- A fully stocked retail store with everything cats (and their loyal human companions) need
- A community hub to educate the community on responsible pet ownership and raise the profile of cats

Our Society works diligently to improve the welfare and wellbeing of cats in Victoria, but we simply could not do this without the kind support of the community and people like you.

And that's why we warmly invite you to our 'housewarming party' on Saturday 24th April as we celebrate this significant milestone in the Society's history.

There will be family-friendly entertainment and rides, food-trucks, market stalls and plenty of opportunities to learn more about The Cat Protection Society.

So, bring your friends and family and come on down to show your support for The Cat Protection Society!

**WHEN:** Saturday 24th April **TIME:** 11am-3pm **WHERE:** 200 Elder Street, Greensborough

**If you would like to book a behind-the-scenes shelter tour on the day, please visit [www.catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty](http://www.catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty) - but be quick, as spaces will fill up fast!**

If you are unable to attend our housewarming party, but would still like to help us celebrate, you can give a housewarming gift to the cats and kittens in our care by visiting [www.catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty](http://www.catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty) or by completing and returning our Housewarming Party donation form at the rear of this publication.



## Creating a brighter future for cats in need

As a not-for-profit animal welfare charity, that receives no government funding to support our work, we rely solely on the generosity and kindness of the cat-loving community.

With the opening of our purpose-built adoption center, clinic, and shelter, the Society is now able to expand our work with cats and kittens in need as well as our outreach work with surrounding communities to help raise the profile of cats and promote responsible pet ownership.

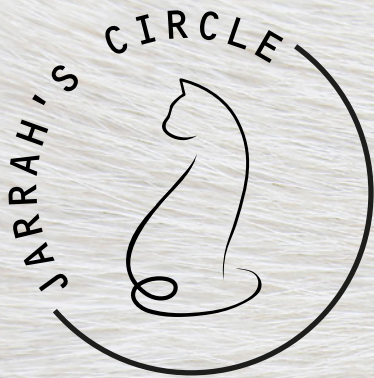
We are excited to have launched our two key fundraising programs, **Furever Home** and **Jarrah's Circle**, which will increase our income to support our lifesaving work.

**Furever Home** is our regular giving program, where cat-lovers can set up an ongoing monthly donation to help care for and prepare cats and kittens to find their furever home. It's a simple and effective way to make a tangible difference in the lives of cats in need. To learn more or to join the family, visit [www.catprotection.com.au/FureverHome](http://www.catprotection.com.au/FureverHome)

**Jarrah's Circle** is our key supporter program, which brings together like-minded people who are passionate about making a significant impact on the welfare and wellbeing of cats in Victoria. Supporters become a member of Jarrah's Circle when they donate \$500 or more a year, or include the Society in their Will. We recently launched Jarrah's Circle with an event attended by some of our most significant donors, which you can read about below. To find out more about how you can join Jarrah's Circle, visit [www.catprotection.com.au/JarrahsCircle](http://www.catprotection.com.au/JarrahsCircle), and if you have already made the lifechanging decision to include the Society in your Will, please let us know by emailing [support@catprotection.com.au](mailto:support@catprotection.com.au)

We are sincerely grateful for the kindness and generosity our Members and Donors have shown to the Society and the cats we care for, thank you.





## Launching Jarrah's Circle

The Society officially launched Jarrah's Circle in late March, with an event at our recently opened adoption center which was attended by some of our most significant and loyal donors.

It was an informative night, where our CEO Ian Crook spoke about the Society's goals for the future and our plans to increase our work with local communities. Our donors also heard from Lisa, our Shelter Manager, about the incredible impact their support is having in providing critical care to cats and kittens in need.

And of course, Jarrah was our special guest on the night, lapping up the opportunity for pats and cuddles from our wonderful Jarrah's Circle members. Invitations to similar events will be extended to members of Jarrah's Circle throughout the year, and we appreciate the opportunity to meet and spend time with our donors, who make all of this possible.



*One of the Society's key supporters, Kenneth, spending time with Jarrah at our launch event.*

Jarrah came into the care of the Society after a member of the community became concerned for his welfare. He had been living as a 'community' cat for around ten years and without a dedicated owner he had several health issues that were making him sick. Jarrah was found to be FIV positive, had dental disease and was suffering with painful cancers on his ears and nose. Our team provided immediate care to Jarrah, removing his cancers and treating his dental issues, and due to the ongoing care he would need it was decided that he would stay in the care of the Society. Jarrah now lives a full, happy and healthy life as our resident shelter and office cat, and often spends time with a dedicated Foster Carer.

# Tips to keep your cat entertained (and out of trouble)

Cats are known to be more independent than their canine friends, however they are primed to pursue prey and for this reason they love to play. The more you play with your kitty or set up games for them, the happier – and more likely to stay out of trouble – they will be.

The Cat Protection Society of Victoria Behaviourist, Natalya Dundovich feels it is important to engage with your four-legged friend and to keep them entertained.

“We can help our cats stay out of trouble by increasing the play that we are doing with them, especially hunting style games as this makes cats feel good and reduces stress. We can also get them foraging for their meals, starting with scattering food on the floor and pointing out the pieces. This is another way to reduce their stress,” Ms Dundovich said.

Here are some of the things you can do with your furry friends to leave them purring.

## **Throw away the food bowl**

“Cats are natural hunters and are designed to work hard for their meals. However, when they live the pampered life, their human servants often deliver their meals on a platter once or twice a day. Food is one of the most powerful motivators for good behaviour because all cats get hungry. So use this to your advantage and throw away the food bowl,” Ms Dundovich said.

“Instead of giving your cat a bowl full of free rewards each day, put their food into a container or your treat pouch and use it to reward them for behaviours that you like. Because you are rewarding so many repetitions of desired behaviours in just one day, you will notice a dramatic improvement in your cat’s overall behaviour and it will also keep your cat stimulated and entertained,” she said.

## **Cat Puzzles & Homemade Toys**

There are many cat puzzles you can purchase from pet stores that will keep kitties entertained but you can also create your own puzzles and toys from home.

Crumbled paper is always an exciting toy for cats. They love the sound and to chase and wrestle it. Just make sure they don’t chew or swallow the paper, especially when they are kittens.

A wand is also a popular toy, you can make your own by tying a feather to the end of a stick. Pull it slowly away from your cat, then watch as it leaps to catch it in the air.

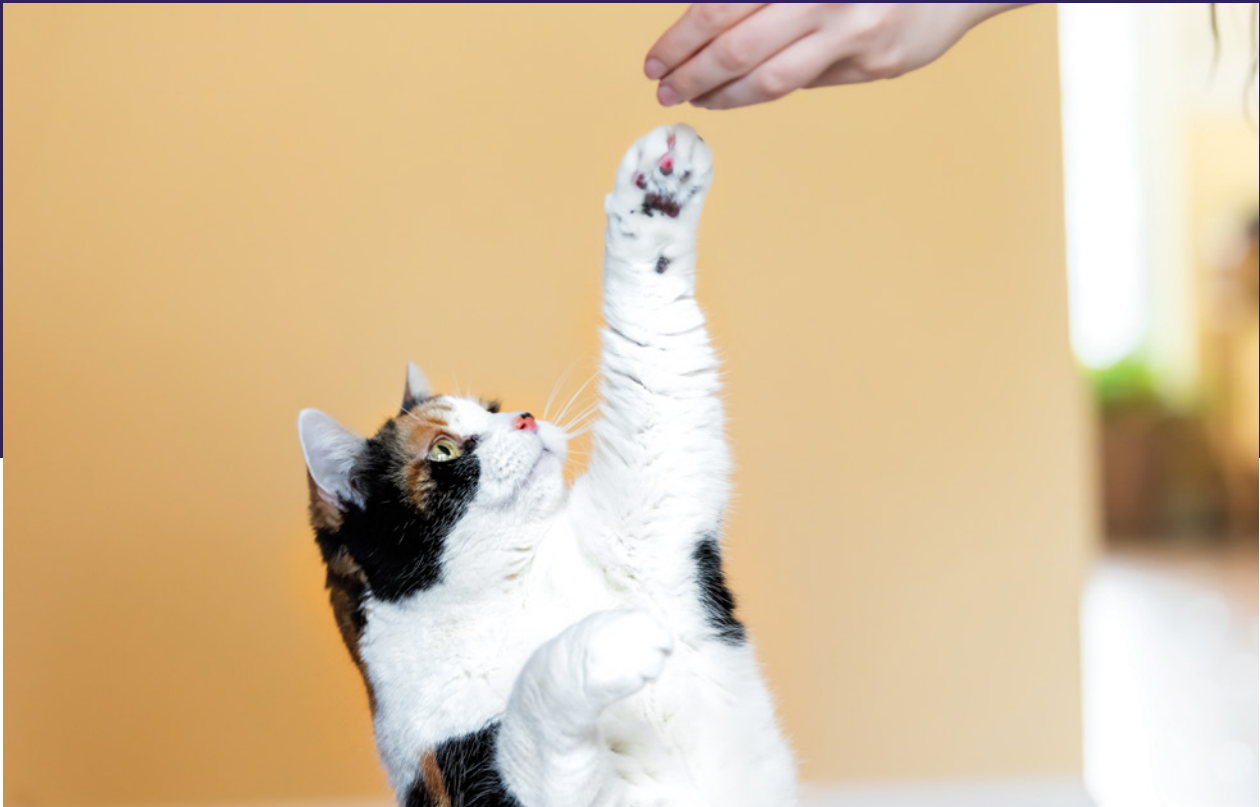
## **Fetch**

It is not just dogs that enjoy playing fetch. Find a toy that is easy for your cat to carry in their mouth, throw it, and wait for your cat to bring it back. Reinforce this by petting or providing healthy treats.

## **Food Foraging Games**

Get your cat ‘hunting’ for their meals. You can provide some of your cat’s meals through food dispensing items and interactive toys.

“Start simply by hiding some of your cat’s food in a toilet paper roll or egg carton and encourage them to go find it. Because you are providing an appropriate outlet for your cat’s instinctive behaviours, you will notice a significant decrease



in undesirable behaviour. Not only is your cat burning energy, but they are using their brain to problem solve. This is exhausting work. We know that problem solving is a great way to promote neuroplasticity – meaning that when you have time to train your cat, they are more likely to learn new skills easily,” Ms Dundovich said.

Check out this amazing website for inspiration and to challenge your cat even more <http://foodpuzzlesforcats.com/>

### **Cat Apps and TV**

There is an app for everything these days, including keeping felines entertained. These apps feature moving fish and other motion graphics designed specifically for cats. TV Platforms like ‘Amazon Prime’ are now offering free animal channels. While not all cats will enjoy this stimulation many will. It doesn’t make for a rigorous workout so ensure you mix this play up with other activities.

### **A Kitty Style Play Room**

You can create a play room just for your cat (it doesn’t need to be a whole room; a corner of the living room will suffice). In the room you can add cat furniture like a scratching post or a scratching bench. Providing a ‘viewing window’

to the outside world can also be a great way to keep your cat entertained. Cats are drawn to the outside world and love to keep an eye on what is going on out there.

### **Light Play**

We all know how much cats love chasing light reflections. Try catching light off an item like your watch and bounce it low on the wall and on the floor. Your moggie will love running after it and trying to ‘catch’ it. Ms Dundovich offers a word of caution though. “Light/laser play should be kept to one to two minutes at a time, always supervised and ended by a small amount of food down for the cat to eat. Some cats can develop behavioural problems from light/laser play problems so if in doubt owners should opt for different types of play instead. If they notice concerns, owners should speak to their vet and a cat behaviourist,” she said.

The most important thing to remember when it comes to playing with your feline friend is to have fun. Playing is not just an activity that will keep your cat entertained, it will help you bond, a fact that is sure to bring a smile to your face and leave your cat purring.



# Our favourite Adoption

## “Where are they now” updates



**Chubs**

Hey team,

It has been a few months since my partner and I adopted Chubs and I just wanted you to know that he settled in very quickly. It was by about the 3rd day the two of them had gone from hating each other to tolerating each other. Which was a lot quicker than I had expected. They're now close friends and Chubs no longer bites or scratches (he stopped that pretty much after he settled in). He's now a very affectionate lap cat craving attention and spends most of his days asleep on the couch. Thanks heaps for all your help in getting Chubs a happy home. Keep up the amazing work you all do.



**Fluffy now Pickles**

Pickles (was Fluffy) has well and truly settled in and loves her new bestie Winnie!!



**Yoda- now Francis**

Yoda is now known as Francis - aka Francine, Francino, Francisco, Frankie, Fran, Frannie, Lil Bubby and Frankenstein (when he goes beserk!). He was very timid when I met him at the shelter so thought he might take a while to settle in, but boy was I wrong! He jumped out of his carrier like a jack-in-the-box and went straight to work exploring his new territory (bathroom/hallway). He had a very slow introduction to my big boy Gilbert, but I reckon Francis was ready on day one - he's so brave and adventurous! You can tell he's desperate to get close to Gilbert, but Gilbs is not quite there yet - he needs more time to get used to “kitten speed” hahaha!!

Francis loves to chase his big brother, trying to catch his tail and jump on his back! There's still an occasional hiss here and there, but I can tell Gilbert loves him - he always has to be in the same room and has a gentle respect for Francis (despite how annoyed he is by him sometimes).

They share a “good morning” kiss every day and have started sharing meal times together (their idea not mine!).

Francis has settled in so well, he has the perfect personality for our home and I can already see that Gilbert is happier. He bonded with me very quickly too - following me around, rounding me up for lap cuddles and arm suckling when he's tired. I'm absolutely in love with him and his semi-silent “mews”.



### Pip

I'd like to let you know that Pip is settling in very well and has really come out of her shell. She slept on the bed with us on her first night and has found some lovely dark, quiet spots to relax in during the day. She is eating well and found and used her litter box very quickly. I had a friend come to see me this morning and Pip came strolling out of the room to come and meet her and get a pat. I've attached some pics of her first night in her new home. I am absolutely besotted with this beautiful creature. Thanks again.



### Mikey Baylis

He is adorable, I love him SOOO much he is very funny, he follows me just like a little puppy. I was making the bed one morning when he was under the sheets, I took a movie of him, this was also funny. He joins me each day in my office, walks across the computer keys & changes the program on me, he loves the printer waiting for the paper to come out, & a new friend he found yesterday is my Robo Vac, he follows this around & plays with the little brushes that come from under it, we never have a dull day here. He has an outdoor cattery "Mickey's House" which he loves, he lays in it each day watching the birds, butterflies & insects that pass by, I would die if I lost him, so for a few \$'s I know he is safe.



### Benji

Benji was adopted on 3/12/20, an amazing end for a challenging year. Benji is roughly 2 but spent his short life out on the streets. He has many battle scars and is FIV + but that doesn't make him any less smoochy. Benji chose us and happily purred on the long two-hour drive to his cosy coastal home. Little Benji-boy took only half a day getting use to his new house before inviting his big cat sister in to hang out.

He loves his food, snuggling and getting all the attention he can. He misses the outdoors but is much happier and safer viewing the birds in the front doorway, lazily sunbathing. He also has a plethora of mice but still loves paper bags and chasing his tail. Benji is very loved and probably the happiest and purriest cat ever. Even his new vet said so!



### Chloe and Zelda

I adopted Chloe and Zelda (then called Esmerelda) in December 2019 when they were aged 14. They are both beautiful, quiet, affectionate ladies with strong personalities and a little bit of mischief, and I am so glad that they have taken over my heart, my life and my house. They are now a healthy 15.



### Maggie now Twinkle

I just thought you might like an update on Maggie who I adopted from you 4 weeks ago. I have changed her name to Twinkle. She is happily settled in and is very sweet and friendly. She likes playing with her toys and running around the house. Also sitting on keyboard while I try to type. Thanks for all your work looking after the kittens and cats.



### Leigh

I thought I'd send you an update on Leigh, who I adopted from you approx. 1month ago.

After spending the first few days hiding under the bed, Leigh (who we've nicknamed Qua Qua) has become an incredibly playful, active and affectionate companion. His antics include leaping around the house like a commando, rolling on his back, kneading the air whilst getting patted and teaching himself to turn on the lounge room light, which is operated via a foot switch! The fact that he is deaf has not held him back at all. He was previously one of four siblings, so now he is enjoying being the centre of attention.





# Good health signs and warning signs to spot in your cat

It can be hard to spot if your cat is feeling poorly, which makes it vital for owners to be educated and aware of the danger signs. It also helps to understand how a healthy, thriving cat acts.

The Senior Vet of the Cat Protection Society of Victoria, Dr. Peta Keown believes it is imperative that pet owners are familiar with their cat's behaviour so they can easily pick up on clues when things aren't quite right.

"Besides looking out for obvious physical signs, being aware and in tune with your cat's consistent behaviour and personality is extremely important. It helps you to identify signals and behaviours that may signify that something is wrong," Dr Keown said.

## Here are some signs that show your cat is in good health:

### A Good Weight

A healthy body weight indicates your cat has a good appetite as well as energy to play and engage.

### Clear Eyes

Bright and clear eyes are a sign your cat is healthy.

"No mucky discharge in the eyes is a reassuring sign that your cat is in good health,"

Dr Keown said.

### Good Eating and Drinking Habits

Dr Keown says, "a good appetite is always a great sign, as well as consistent eating and drinking."

### Regular Toileting Habits

Peeking into your cat's kitty litter may not be anybody's idea of fun but it is important to be aware of your cat's toileting habits. Small, firm stools can be a sign their digestive system is in good order.

### A Shiny Coat

A shiny coat that is well groomed is another good sign. The coat should always be smooth and free from dandruff.

### Interactive and Engaged

Not all cats like engaging with their owners 24 hours a day, but a thriving cat is one that is actively engaged in life.

"It is not just physical signs that show us the cat is healthy, their behaviour is a good indication too," said Dr Keown. "Cats that happily interact with their surrounds and people around them are often very healthy felines."



**If you would like to discuss any health concerns you may have with your cat or you would simply like to ensure they are in good health, you can make a booking with our feline dedicated vet clinic by contacting 03 8457 6504**

## However, there are some warning signs you can look out for:

### Loss of Appetite

If a cat goes off its food, making them eat less or not at all, this can be a sign that something isn't right.

### Weight Loss

It is important to be observant of any weight fluctuations. "Weight loss is another sign and often alerts us that something is chronically wrong," Dr Keown said.

### Changed Toileting Habits

A change in toileting habits is a key sign something is not quite right. This could present itself in the form of:

- **Diarrhoea:** This can be caused by a host of factors including bacteria, viruses, internal parasites, toxic substances or anxiety.
- **Constipation:** Some of the factors that cause constipation include ingesting substances such as hair, bones or foreign materials, disease or dehydration.
- **Abnormal Urination:** Straining to urinate or blood in the urine may indicate a urinary tract infection. Likewise, an increase in urine volume may indicate an organ or endocrine disease
- **Vomiting:** It is not uncommon for a cat to vomit but frequent and persistent vomiting is not normal and should be investigated.

### Poor Grooming and an unhealthy-looking coat

Red flags include dryness, dandruff, excess greasiness and bald or thinning patches.

"This is often a sign of poor health and can present in senior cats due to conditions such as arthritis or hormonal changes," Dr Keown said.

### Changes in Behaviour

Dr Keown said "Behavioural differences, such as cats withdrawing and not wanting to participate as well as hiding away in places such as the wardrobe, are something to be aware of."

She advises owners who notice any of the warning signs above to visit their vet.

"You should not hesitate to visit your vet if you witness any changes to your cat's usual behaviour, or if they display any red flags," she said.

She also believes there are practical steps that owners can take each day to ensure their cat remains in the best health possible.

"Feeding your cat a good quality, premium, complete and well-balanced cat food should not require supplements as it contains all of the vitamins and nutrients a cat should need. You should also keep up your cats' vaccinations up to date and apply flea and worm preventions. Spending quality time with your cat each day is also very important," she said.

"Never be afraid to visit your vet if you are even slightly concerned and make sure you communicate all your worries to them," she said.

"Cats don't always make it easy when determining if they are unwell and will try to hide it for as long as possible. It is important to be on the front foot and visit your vet as soon as any warning signs present," Dr Keown said.

# Now available for adoption

Can you provide a loving home to any of our cats awaiting adoption? To learn more about any of the cats pictured, visit our website at [www.catprotection.com.au/adoption/](http://www.catprotection.com.au/adoption/) or pop into our Adoption Shelter which is open Monday-Friday from 10am-4pm and weekends from 10am-3pm.



**Edwin**  
M/C: 956000010570425  
Male. 3 years old.

Edwin is a friendly, playful and very curious boy who sometimes has trouble controlling his urges. He gets very involved in the moment when he is focused on something or what he is doing and often forgets his manners resulting in rough play. He is a busy boy full of enthusiasm and a real sticky beak which can get him in a bit of strife.

He would not be suitable in a home with another feline, young children or seniors' due to his rough playing. He may do well with a feline friendly dog who is happy to accept the fact Edwin will be in charge.

Edwin requires an experienced home preferably with a secure cat enclosure.



**Eliza**  
M/C: 956000013292920  
Female. 2 years old.

Eliza is a sweet and quiet little girl who can be hesitant meeting new people and in new surroundings. She would like a bit of patience to get to know her new home and humans. Once settled she is friendly and affectionate, but also has an independent side and is happy with her own company.

Eliza would like a quiet and calm home without children, and where she is the only four-legged family member. Eliza also needs a home that understands her that she requires two litter trays.



**Thomas**  
M/C: 956000006723448  
Male. 2 years old.

Thomas is a big cheeky rambunctious boy who is always busy and, on the go,, he is affectionate but is also distracted easily. Thomas needs an experienced cat savvy owner who is willing to spend the time to teach him acceptable behaviour. Thomas's perfect home is one with an outdoor enclosure where he can enjoy the outdoors without getting into mischief. His personality would not be suitable in a home with children or seniors.





**Marionette**  
M/C: 956000012955524  
Female. 1 years old.

Marionette came to us a very scared and timid stray, she is a stunning girl that needs an experienced human to shower her with patience and love.

She will take a quite a bit of time to settle and be comfortable. Marionette is a girl that if you are willing to put in the hard yards with she will reward you with unconditional love and affection.

Her perfect home is very cat savvy with no children or other felines or canines.



**Ronald**  
M/C: 956000013293243  
Male. 1 years old.

Ronald is a stunning young man with eyes that will melt your heart, he is friendly, playful and affectionate. Ronald knows his mind and he is selective about who is going to win his love. We do say "Let the cat pick the human" and that is what Ronald will do.

Ronald is FIV+ so he will need to be indoors only for his safety and the safety of other cats in the area.



**Diezel**  
M/C: 956000006499376  
Male. 2 years old.

Diezel is a stunning young guy who is friendly, affectionate, inquisitive and playful. He is very excitable and can forget his manners and focus when playing, in turn it becomes rough play. He is not intentionally nasty he just does not understand when to stop, he gets very focused on the moment.

Diezel needs an experienced and stable home with an abundance of understanding, patience and the commitment to spend plenty of time with him to burn his energy and teach him manners.

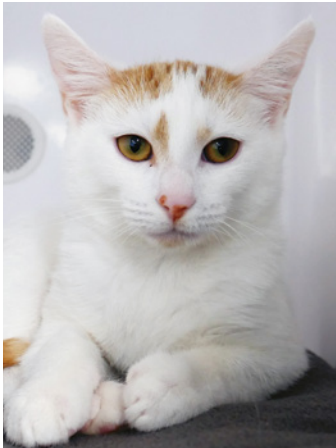
He is not suitable in a home with young children, seniors or another feline. He may do well with a medium to large feline friendly canine.



**Freddie**  
M/C 956000010904871  
Male. 5months old

Freddie is a playful but reserved and shy young boy who would do well with a confident feline friend to show him the ropes and bring out his confidence.

Freddie will need to be indoors only to protect his ears and nose from the sun.



**Pearl**  
**M/C: 956000013384863**  
**Female. 5months old**

The lovely Pearl needs a quiet home. She can get overwhelmed with more than 2 people in her space (will run and hide). She is very loyal to those she trusts. Pearl prefers you 'ask' for permission before you pat her in terms of you, putting your hand out first to let her sniff!

She doesn't like sitting on your lap but likes to be close and enjoys pats on her back. Pearl purrs very easily when she is comfortable. She likes to play. Pearl is happy in the presence of other cats so if you have another cat this may help Pearl settle in but it is not a must.



**Gilmore**  
**M/C: 956000013292118**  
**Male. 2 years old.**

You probably won't see it but Gilmore is "Happy Gilmore" because he now has a warm bed, food on demand and is safe from the elements. Even though we don't know his history we know that Gilmore has had a rough life and had to fight for survival.

Look past his "happy" face and you will find on the inside Gilmore is just a young, shy and quiet guy who wants to be loved without being smothered. He is happy lazing around without fuss or fanfare with his requirements being the basics of life; love, security and safety.

Gilmore is FIV+ so he will need to be indoors only for his safety and the safety of other cats in the area.

**CPSV Source Number: BR100404**

All cats featured were available for adoption at the time of printing. To confirm availability, please visit our website at [www.catprotection.com.au/adoption/](http://www.catprotection.com.au/adoption/) or contact our Shelter Adoption Team on 03 8457 6500.



Can you give the cats in our care a housewarming gift? Your generous donation will help our cats settle into their (temporary) home sweet home with a warm bed, full belly and toys to keep them entertained.

☐ **YES! I'd love to give the cats and kittens at The Cat Protection Society a housewarming gift!**

#### PLEASE ACCEPT MY HOUSEWARMING GIFT OF:

- ☐ \$25 for nutritious and tasty meals so our cats and kittens have full bellies
- ☐ \$56 to provide toys and enrichment to keep cats entertained as they await their new forever home
- ☐ \$102 for a health check to make sure our cats and kittens are healthy and feeling great
- ☐ My choice \$\_\_\_\_\_ to ensure the cats and kittens in our care receive the love and attention they deserve from our dedicated animal care team

#### MY DETAILS

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

#### I'D LIKE TO MAKE MY HOUSEWARMING GIFT BY:

- ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cheque/Money Order (Please make payable to The Cat Protection Society of Victoria)
- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Diners

Credit Card Number:

Credit Card Expiry:   /   CVC:

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my receipt by: ☐ MAIL ☐ EMAIL

**Thank you so much for your kind housewarming gift**

The Cat Protection Society of Victoria respects your privacy. To read our full privacy statement visit [catprotection.com.au/privacy](http://catprotection.com.au/privacy).  
☐ Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any future communications from The Cat Protection Society of Victoria.

#### OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

Donate online at [catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty](http://catprotection.com.au/housewarmingparty) | Donate over the phone by calling 03 8457 6500  
Complete and return this donation form to: The Cat Protection Society: PO Box 257, Greensborough VIC 3088



All photos captured and included in this publication were taken in-house by Alison,  
a member of The Cat Protection Society team.



**THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA**

*Adoption Shelter    Veterinary Clinic    Retail Store*

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**POST:** PO Box 257, Greensborough VIC 3088

**P:** 03 8457 6500   **W:** [catprotection.com.au](http://catprotection.com.au)   **E:** [info@catprotection.com.au](mailto:info@catprotection.com.au)