



*Christmas, 2023*  
**NINE LIVES**

THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA MEMBER AND SUPPORTER PUBLICATION

## Let this *Christmas* be the cat's whiskers



3 adorable Christmas cards featuring kittens from our adoption shelter

- Available in a 6 pack for \$10
- Available in a 12 pack for \$15

Purchase online at  
[www.catprotection.com.au/product/christmas-cards](http://www.catprotection.com.au/product/christmas-cards)

## Or celebrate your love of *fabulous felines* all year long with our 2024 Famous Felines of The Cat Protection Society 2024 Calendar

- 12-month calendar
- Featuring the cats who spent an extended period of time at our adoption shelter during 2023
- All sale proceeds will help to support the care of long stay (feline) residents in the year ahead

Purchase online at  
[www.catprotection.com.au/product/famous-felines-2024-calendar/](http://www.catprotection.com.au/product/famous-felines-2024-calendar/)



## Make this Christmas *Brighter Together*

As the holiday season approaches, we reflect on the joy and warmth it brings to our hearts and the special role that our furry, feline family members play. It's a time for giving, sharing and for coming together as a community. As a valued supporter of The Cat Protection Society, we're reaching out to you this Christmas, not just to celebrate the season but to make a difference that will last long after the decorations are put away.

At The Cat Protection Society of Victoria, we're committed to providing the highest levels of care to abandoned and vulnerable cats in need, much like Mavis and George whose story you can read on pages 6-7, and providing the opportunity for every cat to find their *happily furever* after.

This Christmas, we're hopeful we can not only grant Mavis and George's wish for one last Christmas together, but that we can continue to make decisions that are in the best interests of even more cats and kittens who will find themselves seeking refuge and care in the year ahead.

Here's how you can make this Christmas even more special for Victorian cats in need:

- 1. Donate to our Christmas appeal:** Your donation regardless of its value, will make a very real difference. Every single dollar counts and helps our Society achieve its goal of providing the highest levels of care to every cat who finds themselves at our Shelter. To donate, visit [www.catprotection.com.au/our-last-christmas](http://www.catprotection.com.au/our-last-christmas) or return the donation form at the rear of this Nine Lives Publication.
- 2. Purchase your Christmas gifts from our online store:** Our online and onsite retail store is stocked with everything your four-legged family member or cat-loving friend could wish for at Christmas. And what's more; all sale proceeds directly help to support the ongoing work of our Society. To view our range, visit [www.catprotection.com.au/shop](http://www.catprotection.com.au/shop)
- 3. Leave a gift at our CPSV Wishing Tree:** If you live near to our Greensborough Shelter, consider leaving a small gift, toy, or care item under our CPSV Wishing Tree. These gifts will be used for the cats in our care (Shelter and Foster) to help them feel enriched and loved over the holiday period.

**4. Become a Volunteer Foster Carer:** Our Volunteer Foster Carers play a vital role in supporting the number of cats we can rehome from our adoption shelter, especially over the busy Summer, Kitten season period. If you can provide a safe, loving home and you would love to make a difference to some of our most vulnerable cats and kittens, visit our website at [www.catprotection.com.au/support-us/foster-care](http://www.catprotection.com.au/support-us/foster-care)

**5. Spread the word:** Share our cause with your friends and family. Encourage them to join us in making a difference this Christmas. The more people who know about our purpose, the greater our impact.

This Christmas let's come together as a community of cat-lovers and show that the spirit of giving is stronger than ever. Your support can be the gift that keeps on giving, making a positive impact on the lives of vulnerable and abandoned cats.

Thank you for continuing to support The Cat Protection Society of Victoria this Christmas. Together, we can make a real difference and bring the magic of the season to cats in need.

**Warmest wishes for a joyful and giving Christmas.**  
**The team at The Cat Protection Society of Victoria.**





# Introducing

## OUR CPSV COMMUNITY DESEXING PROGRAMS

With the goal of helping to reduce cat overpopulation and the associated environmental and societal issues across Victoria and also ensuring that every cat has the opportunity for a healthy, safe, and loving home, we are proud to now offer our **Community Desexing** and **Last Litter Programs**.

These programs are funded with the support of our wonderful CPS Donors and Members: it is this support that is allowing us to make a very real difference where most required and for this, we are incredibly grateful.

### COMMUNITY DESSEXING

Our Cat Protection Society Community Desexing program was established to help give cat-owners access to desexing. Our big picture goal is to end cat overpopulation across Victoria by making the decision to desex your cat available to Victorian cat-owners who need it most.

Every month, we offer a number of significantly subsidised desexing procedures to cat-owners across Victoria who have a valid Senior / Pension or Health Care Card. These procedures are available for both female and male cats and where required, cats will also receive a microchip and vaccination.

### LAST LITTER

Our Last Litter program aims to stop the constant cycle of yearly cat pregnancies with a focus on prevention rather than intervention. Our Last Litter program is available to cat owners with a pregnant mother cat or cat who has recently

given birth to a litter of kittens. When born or at weight, the kittens are surrendered to our Society and are desexed, microchipped and vaccinated in preparation for adoption into a loving forever home. The mother cat is also desexed and if required microchipped and vaccinated and returned to her owner.

With your support, our Society has been able to desex 1,399 of cats through our Community Desexing and Last Litter programs within our Shelter Veterinary Clinic. Our plan is to significantly expand our Community Desexing and Last Litter programs in 2024 to have an even greater impact on cat overpopulation and cat welfare in Victoria.

**We understand this is only possible due to the support of our Donors and Members just like you; an incredible thank you for helping to support these programs.**



## DID YOU KNOW?



Cats can reach sexual maturity and get pregnant at just four months of age?



Cats are seasonal breeders and enter their reproductive cycles at a certain time of the year. This generally begins in Spring as daylight starts to lengthen and stops in Autumn when daylight is reduced.



Female cats can be mated by more than one male within a short period of time. This includes relatives, even her brother and father.



Cats don't 'need' to have a litter of kittens: there are no proven health or welfare benefits.



Desexed male cats generally have a longer life and reduced injuries because they get into fewer fights and do less roaming.



There are lots of health and behavioural benefits to desexing.



A single female cat and her offspring can produce over 400,000 kittens in their lifetime.





## Can you help grant the ultimate Christmas wish?

With Christmas fast approaching, bonded pair and siblings Mavis and George have just one single wish; to spend one last Christmas together, acutely aware that this may be their last on account of George's failing health.

Mavis and George have never known a life without one another, being of the same litter and growing up as bonded siblings living in the same home. They have slept cuddled up beside one another each night and every day, have eaten from their food bowls positioned side by side. Where George is independent, confident and loves to play, Mavis is timid and cautious but together they work, and Mavis derives a huge amount of confidence simply from being in the company of her brother, her safety net.

Mavis and George entered the care of the Cat Protection Society in late 2022 when they were sadly surrendered due to their registered owners moving overseas. Unlike so many of the cats who arrive seeking refuge at our Shelter, Mavis and George had without a doubt been loved and well looked after, but upon a routine health and behavioural assessment, our Veterinary team quickly identified that despite being blissfully unaware, George was in fact seriously unwell.

George had a distinct heart murmur and after conducting two echocardiograms at a cost of \$400 each, George was diagnosed with a moderate grade HCM or Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy; a condition affecting the main pumping chamber of his heart which would over time, impact his heart's ability to supply his body with enough blood. Further investigation also showed that George had blood pressure issues and he would require ongoing monitoring and medication for the rest of his precarious life. Devastatingly, George's condition will significantly reduce his life expectancy.

But despite it being George with the heart that was so unwell, it was his lifelong companion and sister Mavis whose heart was breaking. With George needing to spend a significant amount of time in our Veterinary Clinic, Mavis was, for the first time, separated from her brother, something she really struggled with. Without George by her side, she would cower in the corner of her condo and cry, refusing to eat or interact, sometimes for over 24-hours until her brother was returned. When reunited, Mavis would kiss and groom George, keeping him as close as possible whilst she slowly returned to her old self.

Our adoption team were at a crossroads.

George was clearly too unwell to be made available for adoption, but without any significant health issues, Mavis could in fact be adopted into a loving home.

But Mavis being adopted out meant separating Mavis from George for the first time in their 10 years and our dedicated adoption and veterinary team had become very aware that Mavis just simply wouldn't cope without her George.

Despite it being a costly option, the decision was reached to keep the brother and sister bonded duo together and to provide them with the opportunity to spend George's final months with one another. George was placed into palliative foster care and his sister Mavis was able to move in with him.

With George and Mavis now in a loving foster care home at a cost of over \$100 per week, Mavis and George have just one more wish.

A wish to spend what will likely be their final Christmas together.

**A donation to our Christmas appeal will not only ensure that we can grant this wish for Mavis and George, but also continue to make decisions that are in the best interests of the cats who find themselves in our care in the year ahead; much like we did for George and Mavis.**

Your donation, regardless of what value can make a very real difference. Every single dollar counts and helps our Society achieve our goal of providing the highest levels of care to every cat who finds themselves at our Shelter.



## Here is how your donation can make a difference:

\$25

**Provides a week's worth of food to a cat in need living at our adoption shelter or in foster care**

\$100

**Allows an unwell or in need cat to spend a week in a loving foster care home**

\$50

**Helps fund the cost of vital medications for cats who arrive in our care unwell**

\$250

**Helps to offset the cost of life saving surgery for cats who arrive in our care seriously unwell**

**Your generosity matters. Please consider donating to help grant Mavis and George's wish for one last Christmas together**

### Donate today

You can donate by visiting our website at [www.catprotection.com.au/our-last-christmas](http://www.catprotection.com.au/our-last-christmas) or by returning the Donation Form included at the rear of your Nine Lives publication.



Scan for info



# Must have

## Christmas gifts for the cat-lovers in your life!

### For the Junior Cat Lover

Do you have a little person in your life who adores cats? Be sure to check out:

1. Badge and matching keyring pack
2. Matching hoodie and t-shirt
3. Cool and comfy cat print leggings



### For the Pet lover

There are many ways we can enjoy the company of our cats. The best way is to cuddle up with them on the couch, whilst enjoying a drink of your choice, with some wonderful relaxing scents from our candles (that are made with pet friendly essential oils).



### For the green thumb cat lover

Do you love plants? Do you love cats?

Why not combine the two and check out our range of happy cat pot planters.



### For the ultimate cat crusader who is a loud and proud cat lady!

Our top picks for you are:

1. Our resin earrings range
2. Our cat print leggings
3. Our matching mirror, tin and magnet sets.



### Cards and Calendars

And to help spread the feline-love, why not pick up some blank or Christmas themed cat cards. You may also like to check out our 12 month Famous Felines of The Cat Protection Society calendar



Shop online today

[www.catprotection.com.au/shop](http://www.catprotection.com.au/shop)

THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

NINE LIVES MEMBERSHIP PUBLICATION | CHRISTMAS 2023



# GET ALL OF YOUR *Christmas shopping* DONE WITH THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY

Our online store is stocked with everything you need to spoil your four-legged family member or cat loving friend or family this Christmas!

And remember, when you buy from our Society, all sale proceeds directly help to support the ongoing work of our Society.

## SPEND AND SAVE THIS CHRISTMAS

\$100 you get 10% off your order\*

\$150 you get 15% off your order\*



[CATPROTECTION.COM.AU/SHOP](https://catprotection.com.au/shop)

Offer exclusively available via our online store at [www.catprotection.com.au/shop](https://www.catprotection.com.au/shop) for orders placed before Friday 22nd of December with the discount automatically applied. No further discounts apply. Delivery and click and collect available. To ensure delivery before Christmas, orders must be placed before Sunday 17th of December within Melbourne Metro areas. Shipping an additional cost.

# The Cat Protection Society *Community Outreach Programs*

Do you know a local community group or school that would like the unique opportunity to learn more about The Cat Protection Society and cat welfare? If so, they may be interested in our community and school programs.

## *Responsible Cat Ownership: Primary Schools*



Our Society also offers small group community visits to local community groups who can travel to our Adoption Shelter with the goal of promoting the work of our Society whilst helping to build the profile of cats as companion animals.

- During these visits, groups of up to x 10 people can enjoy a tour of our Adoption Shelter facility and participate in cat enrichment.
- There is also the ability to add morning or afternoon tea with a coffee / tea / milk shake and small cake for \$7.50 per person.
- Our Community Visits are available on weekdays only.

*"The Banyule Social Support group has visited the Cat Protection Society (CPS) on a number of occasions. The staff are so friendly and welcoming. When we arrive, we usually sit in the in the café and enjoy some hot coffee and cake. The CPS team then gives us a tour and tells us about the history of CPS and the stories of some of the cats and how they came to be at CPS. We always enjoy our experience with the cats and are so grateful we get this opportunity."*

Our **Responsible Cat Ownership Session** is designed to educate primary school aged children on responsible cat ownership and help improve the welfare and wellbeing of cats in our local community. Our **Responsible Cat Ownership Session** presentation content and activities can be linked to various learning areas within the Victorian Curriculum (Prep to Year 6). The Session is available as a school-excursion with schools visiting our Adoption Shelter or as an external visit by a member from our CPS team visiting the school.

The school-excursion to our Adoption Shelter includes a tour of our Adoption Shelter and is 1hour in duration. Our external visits are 30-40 minutes in duration.

Our **Responsible Cat Ownership Session** external visits are currently only available to Primary Schools within Banyule and Nillumbik. We are happy to accommodate an in-house visit or school excursion from any Primary School, however travel to and from our Greensborough Adoption Shelter will need to be arranged and paid for by the school.

**We can cater for a maximum of 30 students or x1 class per session.**



## *Community Visits*

**Love to learn more?** Send us an email at [community@catprotection.com.au](mailto:community@catprotection.com.au)

# Where are they now?

## Some of our favourite adoption updates

### Kevin

In July 2022, I went to the Cat Protection Society with a friend considering fostering a cat, but my head was stuck with thoughts of a striking tuxedo cat up for adoption named Kevin. Kevin was described as having a “stand-offish glare”, but I thought I could break through this. When Kevin and I first met, he head butted my hand straight away and that was it. I adopted him the next day.

Kevin and I are very similar personality wise, in that we both like routine, certain people (but only on our terms) and food. I’m autistic and communicate differently to most people and struggle socially sometimes so it’s great to have a black and white furry companion who “gets me”. Kevin loves “lap time” and will follow me until I sit on the couch so he can sit on me. But like me, there are times when he likes to be alone, and I respect that.

Being Kevin’s “hooman” also means I need to meet his schedule for feeding, replacing his litter etc and this has helped maintain my own schedule, which is important for me in managing my bipolar disorder.

Kevin is the right cat for me. Adopting Kevin has been one of the best things I’ve done, and I highly recommend going to the Cat Protection Society and seeing if the right cat chooses you.

### Harry

So this is ‘The Bear’ we call Harry (you knew him as Luna). This boy LOVES HIS FOOD! Oh my gosh, we have a midnight snack then three breakfasts (oh yes that’s three) and dinner and supper - all this makes him my very own chunky monkey! He has his dad wrapped around his paws he’s so cute. I think that makes him 7 this Boxing Day, where did that time go? We have loved every minute with the bear cub, soothed him, fed him, let him hog the bed. We think he’s beautiful.

### Baloo

My partner and I adopted Baloo, from the CPS of course, on Saturday. Naturally we miss Panda terribly and always will, but our new fur baby is definitely putting a smile back on our faces with his sweetness and beautiful temperament—he’s exactly what we needed to help us move forward with Panda firmly etched in our hearts. Even on the first day with us he displayed so much trust and courage exploring every part of the house, following us around everywhere and he hasn’t looked back since taking every opportunity to make himself comfortable, and to become familiar with his new home. We feel so blessed to have Baloo join the family—I wouldn’t be surprised if somehow Panda had a “paw” in bringing us together.

### Pepper

Pepper has become so comfortable at home with her new brother Samson. She loves her cuddles and is always sharing her love. I am so grateful for Cat Protection Society for leading me to her. She has found her person and I have found my best friend.

### Louie

It’s been three years since I adopted Louie from the Cat Protection Society in Greensborough and only recently that he has started to sit on my partner’s lap!! He interacted with Alfred, but it was me that was his comfort and protection. He sleeps with me most nights and sits on my lap still loves to be sometimes under cover. He sometimes changes his patterns and then comes back. If you move too many times in bed, that may upset his comfort so off to the couch and blanket. He demands to be brushed several times a day now from both of us. But when I introduced the idea of a brush he was very wary and would hiss and growl. Sometimes bite!!! I can brush him while wearing bangles on my wrist that jangle and he is used to that, and it doesn’t upset him. He has come along way since I bought him home three years ago. He still has many rules that we follow and he follows some of ours. He is loving when feeling at ease but will still run away when he thinks he needs to. He has a great sense of humour and plays chasey and loves to jump out of hidden places and scare us. He loves playing games and is very amusing. Has a huge love for boxes and blankets. He loves his collection of toy mice. Has a good appetite and has lost some of his strange habits and behaviours. We love him absolute and it feels like we have had him forever. I adopted him after my cat Mimi who was 20 years old (another rescue) passed away. Louie was the only cat available on the day I looked and he looked like a scared Halloween cat that I feel instantly in love with. I could also go for a drive more than 5 kms away. Oh yeah remember lockdown!!!! I had to work from home which was perfect timing for a rescue cat and especially a cat like Louie!!! He needed a lot of understanding and freedom to be himself. He did become a lap cat but it took at least 6 months until he settled into that. He still is making progress and he becomes more and more loving. He has a soft nature and he is very gentle. He can stand up for himself too. A beautiful cat with great character. Thank you Everyone at the Cat Protection Society as we were his 5th family. But you had all his records and the day he was born. You looked after him time and time again. But this here with us is his forever home, and that we can do because you took care of him until we came. What a sweet lad he really is ♥♥♥ Most grateful

### Zelda

Zelda, formerly known as Maggie. I got her when she was a tiny and fluffy kitten. Since then, she has grown into a very adventurous, confident, vocal and cuddly young woman. During the evening hours, she enjoys hanging around the family, jump-scaring our dog, sitting at the dinner table and stalking her older feline brother around the house, despite his protests. I don’t think she is afraid of anything and is never afraid to let people know when she wants something (even at 5 am). She lives up to the orange cat stereotype, and I thank the world every day to have her in my life.

### Kouli

We’ve had one-eyed Kouli for 3 weeks now and he is a very happy cat! He was very nervous at first in his new environment and hid all day, but one night he came straight out for kisses! Kouli is the most affectionate cat we’ve met is and always up for cuddles, plus he loves to play with ping pong balls and measuring tapes! His favourite pastimes are lazing around in the sun, and following his humans when we walk past the food bowl. He sleeps at his mum’s feet, and chirps in her face when he wants food in the morning! Kouli’s loving his new home, and we’re loving him :) Thanks CPSV, you take such good care of your cats!



# Can you provide a furever home to a cat in need this Christmas?



**JUNE 2 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 956000013292515

Hi, my name is June, as much as I love my slaves at CPS, I would really love my own home to rule and be worshiped in. I honestly don't understand why I haven't found my very own human slaves to take me home, some may think my expectations are a bit high, I don't believe they are! So, I thought I would let you know some things about myself to help find my people.

**My Likes:**

- I have a foot fetish, and I know how this sounds. I like to roll around on people's feet, so that they can't move.
- I love sitting on my slaves' laps- However when you move it makes me uncomfortable and I will tell you so
- I have lots of opinions, and I am not afraid to tell you these.

**My Dislikes:**

- Men- I don't like them particularly. However, I would be open to sharing my space with a male if needed.
- Cats and Dogs: Cannot stand other furry critters. This will never change, so please be aware I will need to be only child.
- Small Humans: Don't even bother. I will never get along with children.

I do also have some extra weight, and while this is cute, I am on a diet to help me shed my extra kgs. I am hoping that someone will fall in love with my personality and can overlook my occasional temper tantrums at CPS. I am sweet when I decide your one of my people.



**SAMSON 7 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 956000016248688

Samson is an old soul in the body of a cat. When you look into his eyes, you can see that he has lived a full life and seen things beyond his years. Despite this, he is still quite judgmental and won't apologize for it. He's earned his place in the world and knows exactly what he wants: a warm bed, a full food bowl, and a lap to curl up in when he feels like it. With these simple needs met, Samson will be more than content in his new home. He may take some time getting used to unfamiliar faces, but with enough patient love and understanding, Samson will quickly become the boss.



**QUINCY & LADY 12 AND 14 YEARS OLD BONDED PAIR**

Quincy 12yo (White Male) & Lady 14yo (Silver Female) are an adorable senior pair who need to find a loving home together. Quincy is shy at first but quickly warms up to new people and loves to snuggle in their laps for cuddles. Lady is equally as affectionate, friendly and loves a good lap. They will need regular brushing / grooming to ensure their coats remain matt free and they always look their best. As indoor cats, they are looking for a family that can provide them with plenty of love, attention, and entertainment within the security of their own home.



**TAMMARA 2 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 956000015934304

Tammara is a sweet and gentle girl who came from a hoarding situation. She is quite timid when meeting new people, but with some patience and quiet one-on-one attention she becomes comfortable with her surroundings. Once familiar with someone, Tammara is an affectionate and mellow companion. In her ideal home, she would be in an environment without children or other canines, to help her stay relaxed and stress-free. Additionally, having a confident but friendly feline companion would help Tammara adjust to her new home and increase her comfort level.



**COBY 12 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 943094320137157

Coby is a gorgeous senior gentleman who would make an excellent companion for a calm and loving home. He is affectionate with his people, loves to sleep on their bed, and is friendly once he has gotten to know someone. Coby can get stressed in a busy or noisy home, so he would do best in a quiet environment with no young children. If you are looking for an older guy who will keep you company but not want to be smothered with love, then Coby may well be your man.



**GEORGE 2 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 956000010904552

George is a very sweet and reserved young guy cat who loves to play once settled and comfortable. He would be the perfect feline companion for someone in a quiet home without children or canine companions. George had a rough time in his previous home, as he was tormented by another feline living there. Therefore, it is best that George only lives with humans in his new home and not any other felines. George may take some time to warm up due to his shyness and the traumatizing events of his past, but once he does, he will be an incredibly loving companion who loves nothing more than playing with his humans and taking long naps. George must be kept indoors where he can avoid potential sun damage to his ears and nose.



**BILLIE 6 YEARS OLD**

M/C: 956000006294946

Billie is a stunning long-haired lady who will fit in perfectly with the right family. She loves her people and shows it by being affectionate and playful. Billie would be fine to share her home with an easy-going canine friend, but she has zero tolerance for other cats. Her luxurious fur coat requires some maintenance – brushing it out every few days will keep her looking her best! You may need two brushes though, as she likes to play with one whilst being brushed. When deciding on a home for Billie, it's important to remember that she must be kept indoors only, as she will torment any felines in the area.

## Adopt today!

All the cats featured were available for adoption at the time of printing. To confirm availability, visit our website at [www.catprotection.com.au](http://www.catprotection.com.au) adoption or contact our Shelter Adoption team on 03 84576500



Scan for info





The Board and Staff of The Cat Protection Society would like to wish all our Supporters a wonderful festive season and hope that you all feel the magic of Christmas with your family, friends and of course, your felines.

*Merry Christmas*

THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF VICTORIA



Adoption  
Shelter



Veterinary  
Clinic



Retail  
Store



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