

# scratchingpost



Newsletter of the Hobart Cat Centre

June 16

*please  
take  
one!*

## SHARING IS CARING

Bazza's story  
goes viral

### ALSO THIS ISSUE:

Bruny Island Project

Our Own Vet Clinic

Introducing Your New  
Cat to Other Pets

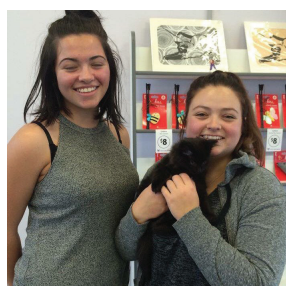
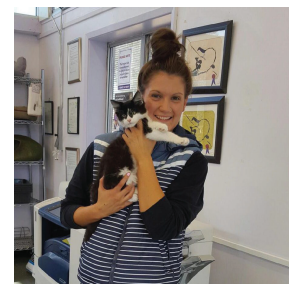
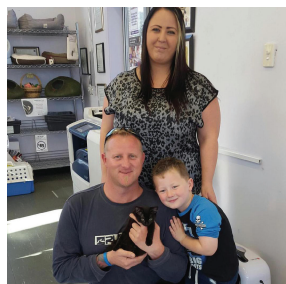
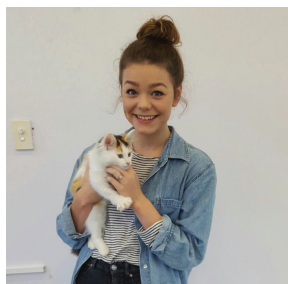
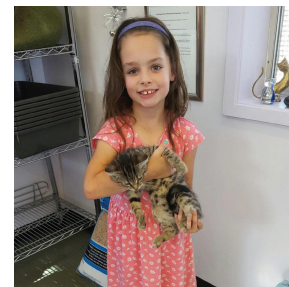
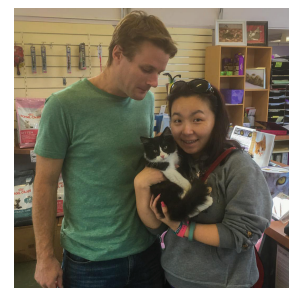
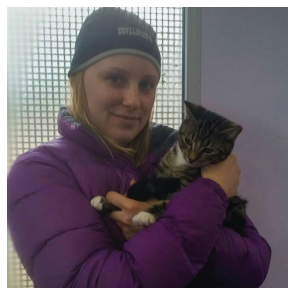


Photo: Rachael Daniels

**INSIDE**

Centre News **4-5**  
 How You Can Help **6-7**  
 Animal Behaviour **8-9**  
 Social Media **10-11**  
 Volunteering **12-13**  
 President's Report **14**  
 Q&A **15**



Op Shop volunteer Bill Daley with Op Shop Manager Robyn Tacey

## OP SHOP

### Paying it Forward and Forward and Forward and Forward and...

Op Shop volunteer Bill Daley, and manager Robyn Tacey were thinking about some of the real little gems that have come through the op shop over the years that prove there are still bargains to be found in a traditional style op shop like the Hobart Cat Centre's.

Robyn recalled that an old crockery set turned out to be Royal Doulton and a second hand dealer paid \$40 per piece, which was a nice contribution to the care of our cats and kittens.

Bill remembered the child's Match Box cars that turned out to be collectors' items and were quite the toy story at the time.

But as Robyn points out, nothing goes to waste at the Op Shop. All of our supporter's generous donations are snapped up by eager bargain seekers. If the items are a little too second hand they are sold for rags that are used in workshops and the like.

If we get too much stock the clothes and items are given to charities that use them in third world countries and provide assistance where it is desperately needed.

So it is a combination of the support of our community, our fabulous volunteers and making sure that every last thing is used for the best outcome.

Thanks everyone involved at the fantastic Margate Op Shop. You help us do our important work caring for our cats and kittens.



## MARGATE OP SHOP

1717 Channel Highway

## CLOTHING BOOKS BRIC A BRAC

### Open

Weekdays 10.00am – 3.30pm  
Saturdays 10.00am – 3.00pm

**We accept donations  
at the Hobart Cat  
Centre or at the  
Op Shop itself**

**The Hobart Cat Centre Inc** ABN 78 883 186 467  
12 Selfs Point Road, NEW TOWN 7008  
PO Box 309, LENA VALLEY 7008  
Phone 03 6278 2111 Fax 03 6278 3111

Web [www.hobartcatcentre.com.au](http://www.hobartcatcentre.com.au) email [info@hobartcatcentre.com.au](mailto:info@hobartcatcentre.com.au)

**Board** President David Rees, Treasurer Bill Harvey, Secretary Roger Viney,  
Board Members Prue Horne, Kellie Rathbone, Trevor Sutton & Vicki Tabor

**Honorary Life Members** Julie Bristow, Leonard Bristow, Colin Dewhurst, Sue Dewhurst, Kath Fisher, Mona Foster, Sue Green, Tom Harding, Robyn Langridge, Betty Sheperd, Caroline Steele, Ingrid Tebb, Rose Osborne, Lin Weidenhofer (dec), Sheree Bennie, Dot Chaffey (dec), Nancy Knop (dec), Nora Wills (dec).

Newsletter edited by Joel Diprose, all newsletter feedback to [joel.diprose@hobartcatcentre.com.au](mailto:joel.diprose@hobartcatcentre.com.au)

### Hobart Cat Centre

12 Selfs Point Road, NEW TOWN  
6278 2111

**Open** Weekdays 10.00am – 4.00pm  
Weekends 10.00am – 2.30pm

### Op Shop

1717 Channel Highway, MARGATE  
0457 184 198

**Open** Weekdays 10.00am – 3.30pm  
Saturday 10.00am – 3.00pm



Sandra Scott from RSPCA Qld training staff for ShelterBuddy

## IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE HCC!

### Better care for our cats and kittens

The temporary site building placed near the front entrance of the Hobart Cat Centre has been described variously as a Demount, Terrapin Building, Mussett Hut and Donga. It depends what part of the country you hail from as to what term you use. Whatever you call the building, it importantly is a sign of exciting times at the Centre. The donga is allowing us to use our available space differently so that we can build a vet surgery on site. This is substantially in progress and we expect to be providing vet care for our cats and kittens in the next few weeks. We are treating more cats and kittens and bringing them back to good health more than we ever have before. The provision of on site vet care will assist us with this vital work and provide the best possible care for our cats and kittens.

Vet Liz Smit has joined the team and with her substantial vet experience and special interest in cats, has been helping us through the establishment phase of this project. It is like Christmas here at the moment and very exciting as

the surgical equipment starts to arrive and our surgery starts to take shape.

Liz will be joined by veterinary surgeon Tess Vitesnik and veterinarian nurse Hannah Fitzgerald over the next few weeks.



Our former quarantine room being transformed

We get so much help at the Centre and we really appreciate it. Bill Hoyle with his 'apprentice' Marc Hoyle did a great job replastering the new vet surgery.

Thanks again to Rick Parker and our friends at Tox Free. Not only do they do our general waste removal at the Op Shop and the Centre (kitties make lots of rubbish!), they

also removed all of the building site waste as well. Thanks people!

### Shelterbuddy

As the President mentioned in his report in this Scratching Post, if you have been at the Centre in the last month you will have noticed some prominent L Plates displayed throughout the centre. This has been to request a little patience as we go through our learning curve as all of our staff and volunteers become familiar with using our new computer system, Shelterbuddy.

Shelterbuddy is specifically designed for animal shelters by the RSPCA in Queensland, and used extensively throughout Australia and the USA.

Shelterbuddy records all information about our cats and kittens as they go through their journey of arriving at the Centre, through all their vet treatment, foster care, right through to the adoption process. Shelterbuddy also helps up provide better service and support to our clients, supporters, foster carers, volunteers and staff.

I think we are progressing to our P plates now and we are



The 'Donga' arriving at the Centre

starting to see the real benefits of Shelterbuddy in our care for our cats and kittens. Elise Coxhell, pictured below, is our Formula One driver of Shelterbuddy and is one of our highly valued volunteers, along with being a dedicated foster carer.



Elise taking a boarding booking with Shelterbuddy

### Kingborough Partnership

The Hobart Cat Centre has agreed to enter into a partnership with the Kingborough Council to implement a comprehensive cat management strategy on Bruny Island.

I am particularly excited about the Bruny Island project. I believe it can improve the way the community looks after and respect cats, achieve significant environmental

outcomes and can be an exemplar of sustainable cat management strategies for Tasmania and further afield.

The Bruny project has the engagement of all the key stakeholders - Kingborough Council, and the local community. Also that of the federal, state government, key environmental groups, local business, the University of Tasmania, and indeed ourselves at the Centre. This project can achieve significant outcomes for the environment, people, agriculture, and of course cats.

We will be working hard with the community to promote responsible cat ownership. The benefits of mandatory de-sexing, chipping and containment.

The Hobart Cat Centre is committed to the Bruny project to get long term outcomes for the community, the environment and cats.

Together we can achieve our version of the triple bottom line; People, the planet...and pussy cats.

manager

**Noel Hunt**



## HELP US HELP CATS LIKE CINDERS

The Hobart Cat Centre is also a second home to many of Hobart's cats.

Our 36 room boarding facility not only is a holiday destination for your cat, but is also a great way to support us and the work we do.

We are traditionally fully booked over the Christmas period, so if you are planning a trip away over the summer get that booking in early!

Please call us on 6278 2111 for all boarding enquiries.

to learn more please visit [hobartcatcentre.com.au](http://hobartcatcentre.com.au) or call **6278 2111**



Holly, Mia & Benjamin holding a stall to raise funds to care for our kitties



Impromptu meeting of foster carers Georgina, Cindy, Carsten & Leanne

## GET INVOLVED

**The Hobart Cat Centre is a self-funded not for profit cat welfare organisation. We do not receive government funding, and we rely on funds generated from our own operations and the support of the general community.**

As we move into our fifth decade of operation, it is heartening to note that our support base is ever growing and that the community as a whole is working together to improve the lives of animals in general across the state.

There are many ways you can help us and the amazing work we do; many take little time or effort and in most cases cost you nothing.

*Here are some ideas to get you started:*

### Donate

The Centre is always grateful to receive donations of old newspapers, woollen blankets, jumpers and towels which ensure our kitties stay warm, especially during our chilly Hobart winters.

Practical items too like copy paper, toilet tissue, dish liquid, washing powder, hand wash, paper towels, garbage bags and stationery products may be very dull but are extremely necessary in the running of the Centre.

Financial donations also provide ongoing care for cats and kittens as well as the maintenance of our facilities. Donations of over \$2 are tax-deductible and donations can be made via our website, over the phone or in person at the Centre.

*Remember to get your donations in by June 30 for this years' tax!*

### Volunteer

For an organisation like the Hobart Cat Centre, volunteers are a vital aspect of our operations. They provide essential support for staff, kitties and clients. We always need reliable volunteers to lend a hand.

You can work as an animal attendant, grooming and feeding our resident cats and kittens, cleaning cages and providing enrichment and care to our kitties. If you're a dab hand with a hammer, there's always plenty to be done in terms of maintenance around the Centre!

If you would like to volunteer from home, why not become a foster carer? Fostering is a truly wonderful experience which is extremely rewarding for you and lifesaving for the cats or kittens you care for. We are always happy to have new foster carers join our team to help us look after the hundreds of cats that require foster care each year.

### Become a member or sponsor

As a paid member you are able to assist in the financial support of the organisation as well as

**The Hobart Cat Centre would like to thank the following people and businesses for their support:** Zenep Jaffers and Southern Cross Austereo, Kerri Walsh and the Mercury, Rick Parke and ToxFree Waste Management





The staff from the Brooker Inn raised \$350 for the Centre.  
Scott receiving a certificate from Manager Noel Hunt and Baz.

contribute to the future direction of the Hobart Cat Centre. There's the opportunity to stand for election to the management committee and vote at the Annual General Meeting. You will also receive newsletters to keep you up to date on the latest activities as well as a 10 per cent discount on our nightly boarding rate and purchases in the Centre shop.

If you are unable to adopt a cat, but would like to have a cat in your life, then why not sponsor one of ours? For just \$20 per month your sponsorship will help us feed and house a cat or kitten and you'll receive regular updates on your sponsored cat. We encourage you to come in and visit your sponsor cat too, not only do you get some kitty therapy but you also help them settle into their environment and prepare them for their forever homes.

We also have a range of options for community-minded businesses who would like to get involved and support a worthy cause.

Regular donations like this, no matter what value, really help us with our work looking after the cats and kittens in our community.

Some examples of what can be done when your donation adds up over a year:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>\$2</b><br>per month  | will help provide toys and activities for our cats during their stay with us          |
| <b>\$10</b><br>per month | can provide treatment for common ailments such as digestive upset, fleas and mites    |
| <b>\$15</b><br>per month | desex, microchip and vaccinate a kitten ready for it to find its forever home         |
| <b>\$20</b><br>per month | sponsor a cat which contributes to the cats stay with us until we find the cat a home |
| <b>\$50</b><br>per month | would support a litter of kittens that require foster care before being adopted       |

*Your contribution no matter what the size helps us carry out our important work caring for our cats and kittens.*

If you have an idea on how you might be able to help us please contact us on **6278 2111** or email [info@hobartcatcentre.com.au](mailto:info@hobartcatcentre.com.au)



## HELP US HELP CATS LIKE SAM

The Hobart Cat Centre is not government funded and relies on the generosity of our loyal supporters

Ways you can help:

**Donate**  
**Adopt**  
**Foster**  
**Bequeath**  
**Volunteer**

Find out more on our website, visit us or call us

to learn more please visit [hobartcatcentre.com.au](http://hobartcatcentre.com.au) or call **6278 2111**



Katrina's dog Lucy and cat Tic-Tac have a respectful tolerance of each other



**Bringing home another friend and welcoming it to your family is an exciting time for everyone, but if you have other pets you may be finding yourself mediating over nasty personality conflicts. Some new cats will be fearful, others pushy, and how your existing pets will react is quite unpredictable.**

*This article should give you a few helpful tips to ensure a happy start.*

- Make sure you have a **safe carrier box for transport**.
- **Prepare your house.** Your new cat needs to be provided with a room or area of the house away from the other pets initially. Remember to keep the area safe: put toilet seats down, tie loose cords up and remove fragile items. Provide all the essentials; **a cosy bed, litter tray, toys, food and water**. Make sure this place is a "neutral zone" such as an office or laundry, not a place where your existing pets like to spend time. Your existing pets should still have access to their usual places (such as the favourite sleeping chair or window sill).

- **Spend time with your new cat.** Make sure you've enough time to gently play and interact with them, without upsetting the routines of your existing pets.
- **Start just with exchanging smells between pets**, by alternately stroking your pets, swapping bedding and placing a towel that has been rubbed over the new pet under your existing pets food bowl (and vice versa).
- **At a calm time of the day**, preferably when there is someone else to help you, after spending 10 minutes or so with your new cat, and after exercising/playing with your pre-existing cats or dog, **it is time for the introduction**. This can be done a variety of ways and really depends on the players. Most adult cats are fairly tolerant of kittens and can be introduced when they are eating or playing, providing there is plenty of space between them. However, harnesses, leashes, baby gates and even cages may be needed and can be extremely helpful to prevent injuries and chases. If using a cage to house your new cat, place it up on a bench to prevent challenging eye balling and to make your new cat feel safer.

This allows your existing pets to exchange smells and observe body postures. Keep introductions brief (5 minute sessions several times a day is much better than a long stressful encounter). Keep your pets calm and build positive emotions by stroking, talking and feeding. Reward good behaviour and don't tell them it's OK if there is any hissing or snarling, just separate them again, and reattempt later when everyone is calm again.

- **Gradually feeding and petting in the same room** can take place without these devices as they learn to associate good things with each other's presence. This is called classical conditioning and requires patience and repetition for success. Watch signals really closely. Subtle signs from cats include the direct stare, a raised bottom and tail, and sometimes hair-raising. Subtle signs from dogs include hair raising, staring, snarling, lip lifting and stalking. If you are seeing these signals, they are not ready to be unsupervised. We want your existing pets to feel excited and happy to share their space with the newcomer.

- **The breed of dog you have, and**



**the cat's previous experiences will greatly influence the ease of introduction.** Introducing a feisty terrier and a cat that has never seen a dog before, will provide a great challenge! Your dog might need to learn to "stay" or "leave it", or may need to be kept on a lead at all times initially. Muzzles might even be needed. Keep yourself safe! Never put your hands or legs between fighting pets. Use a broom, blanket, cardboard or a water pistol and separate them to neutral zones. Obviously if this is the case, seek professional advice.

- **When calm behaviour and friendly exchanges are taking place,** your pets can probably be left unsupervised and your new cat can have free access to the house. This could take hours to weeks. Ideally, cats should be able to move around the room and access other rooms without touching the floor. Cat trees, shelves and furniture can be arranged to provide these escape routes. Then your cat can decide if it wants to share space with your pets or not.

- **Remove competition between pets.** Fighting over access to valued things such as sleeping

areas, human attention and food is the most common cause for poor relationships. Keep routine times for one-on-one play so no one feels left out. Cats like to have their own retreats, up high, where they can sleep or observe the world and hide when afraid. They organise their territories with certain areas being dedicated to certain activities (an eating area, playing area, toilet etc). They also need to mark and scratch to communicate where these areas are. (Feliway®, and a scratching post near these sleeping and eating areas will save the carpet). A litter tray needs to be safe from dogs and children, in an easy access area. If you already have a cat, they need a litter tray each, plus one spare, to reduce competition. Hunting areas need to be established as well. This is where your cat will play so it needs to be well enriched with toys and gymnastic opportunities (to avoid human legs from becoming the prey!)

- **Remember that different pets require different things.** Kittens need 12 hours' sleep (not all in one stretch) for brain development, and will be very playful when they awake, ready to chase anything.

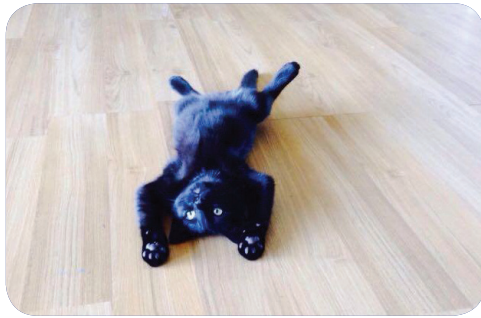
Supervise children and avoid play that leads to overexcitement or biting, or the kitten may never develop self control. Similarly older cats have their own particular requirements. Your new cat's habits and likes may be completely different to those of your existing cat.

- **Be patient and observant.** It's easiest to let your pets set their own pace and not to force contact between them as they set up their social system.
- **Sometimes cats are content to just share their space** with another, but won't actually become the close friends you may be hoping them to be. Don't worry; you haven't picked an "antisocial" one. Normal social cat units consist of the family; that is the queen and her offspring (of many generations). Having to share space with unrelated cats or other species can be a rather threatening situation! The good news is that with the right attention, most cats will make themselves truly "at home" with the rest of your menagerie!

*We love getting photos and updates from our cats in their forever homes. Here's some we had to share:*

**Ebony**

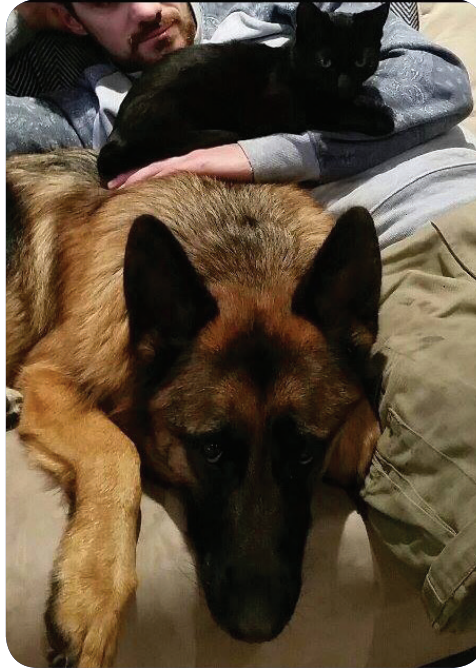
..... 28 Apr 2016 9.33pm .....



Hi I was just letting u know my kitten is settled in great he has grown up a little bit now but he is loving his new home I named him Luna Eclipse Taylor cause as u can see in this picture he is black and Taylor because that is my surname he is a great kitten and he is a combination of happy playful and VERY cuddly he knows his name very well  
Thank you for giving me this loving animal

**Natalie**

..... 27 Apr 2016 1.13pm .....



Hi there!

Just an update on our beautiful little man that we adopted from you last month. Hugo has settled in very well and has made himself a best friend, our 3yr old German Shepherd! Thank you so much for letting us adopt such a beautiful loving cat!

**Dannii**

..... 30 Jan 2016 11.18am .....



Just thought I'd share some photos with you of our kitten Moses that we adopted last Sunday. He's settled in beautifully and absolutely loves playing with the dogs and the kids. Thankyou so much for our beautiful boy

**Andrew**

..... 12 Apr 2016 11.23pm .....



This is the little fella we adopted on 4th April. We were going to call him Jedda but decided on Bandit. He seems to be settling in very well.

**Tina**

..... 26 April 2016 3.30pm .....



Hello! Remember me "Apricot", aka Angel.

Just letting you know I am very happy and very much loved in my forever home! I just love wool, and that's good as this place is full of it #house of wool!

**Dannii**

..... 22 Apr 2016 10.13pm .....



This is Moses now!! He's grown and is becoming mischievous but he's such a beautiful boy. He's definitely part of the furniture in this house now!!  
Coke Zero anyone??



Photo: Rachael Daniels

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Our Facebook and Instagram presence has become an integral tool for us in our efforts to rehome the cats and kittens who come to us.

Having embraced the power of social media, we aim to give our followers interesting and engaging content on what's happening at the Centre. Along with advertising our cats for adoption, we also share photos of cats that have found their forever homes, fundraising activities, call outs for donations and other news from the Centre.

We have just passed 5,000 followers on Facebook - nearly doubling in the past 12 months - and have just passed 600 followers on Instagram, which we have just started using this year.

One particular video that struck a chord with our followers and became pretty much our first 'viral' video, was the story of Baz.

Baz came to us as a stray, and was diagnosed with FeLV (feline leukaemia). Due to the nature of FeLV, Baz needed to be isolated from other cats. He took up residence in our offices and staff

room, and after giving us a huge amount of photo and video opportunities, we just had to show how much he has touched our hearts.

Thanks to everyone who shared, liked and commented on Baz's story, we achieved some phenomenal results from our page:

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| People Reached               | 145,000+ |
| Video Views                  | 43,000+  |
| Reactions, Comments & Shares | 4,280+   |

Baz has found his new home at Stefano Lubiana Wines - we couldn't have wished for a more suitable environment for him!

With our wonderful and loyal followers' interaction, we are rehoming cats much faster than using traditional media. We can't thank everyone enough for supporting our efforts. By engaging with our posts, you are making a massive difference to the cats and kittens we care for.

Remember **Sharing is Caring** - it doesn't cost you anything and you can change the lives of not only our kitties, but the wonderful families who adopt them.



## HELP US HELP CATS LIKE BAZ

The Hobart Cat Centre rehomes hundreds of stray cats like Baz every year. Help us help them.

## Sharing is caring

By sharing our cats for adoption on our Facebook page, you are helping them get out to more people and giving them an opportunity to find their forever home much quicker.

It doesn't cost you anything and takes less than a second.

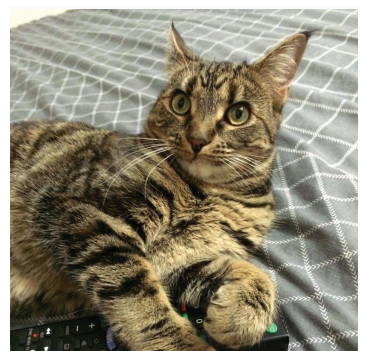
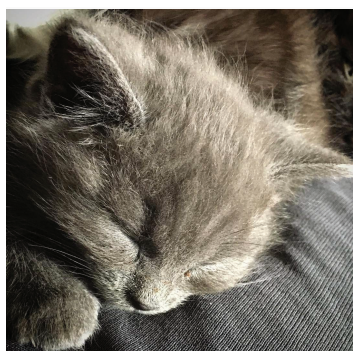
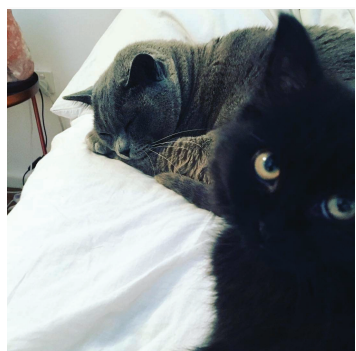
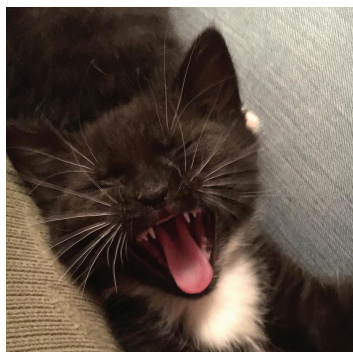
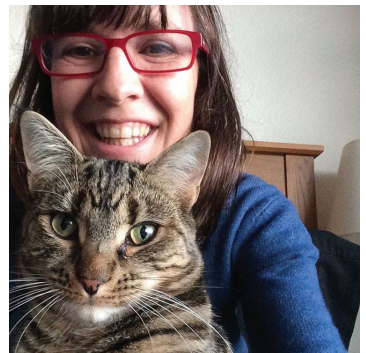
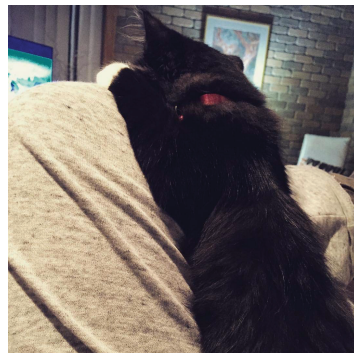
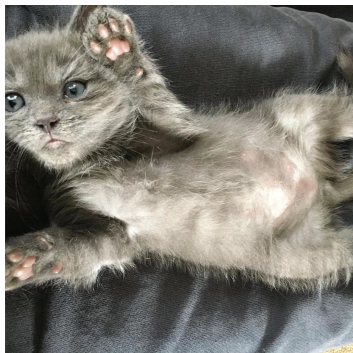
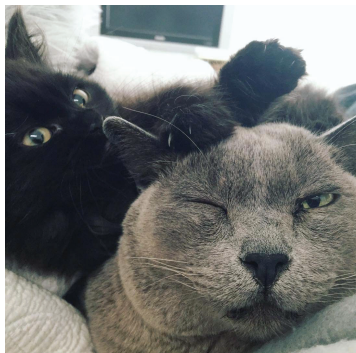
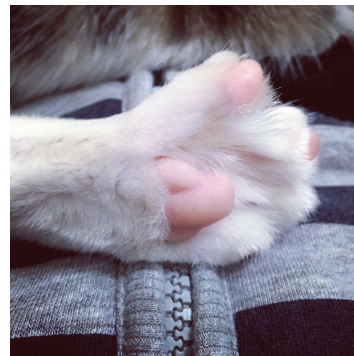
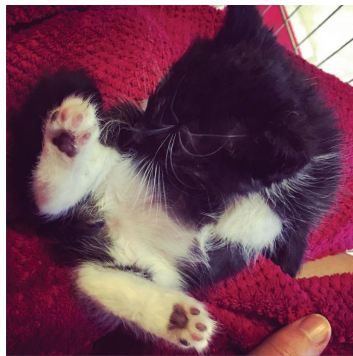
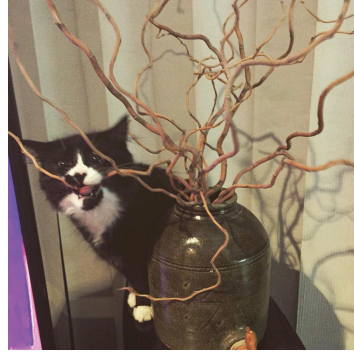
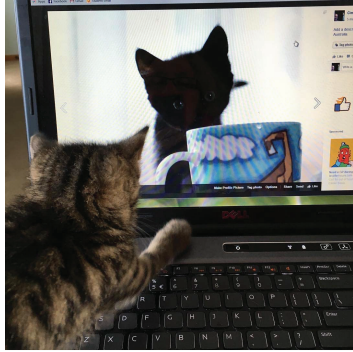
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to learn more please visit [hobartcatcentre.com.au](https://hobartcatcentre.com.au) or call **6278 2111**



Instagram

Some photos from our wonderful foster and adopted kitties.  
Check out the #hobartcatcentre hashtag for lots more gorgeous photos!





Georgina with daughters Molly & Ruby

**In between juggling work and raising her family, Georgina Gallagher has been busy fostering cats and kittens for the Centre - along with being a volunteer animal attendant for us!**

*We have asked Georgina a few questions:*

**Who inspires you?**

*My children.*

**What are you reading?**

*A bit of light reading... Clive Cussler and Thomas Perry "The Mayan Secrets".*

**When you aren't at work...**

*I like going to the beach or bushwalking with my family. I really enjoy fostering cats and kittens from the Hobart Cat Centre and making a difference to their lives. There's nothing more rewarding than hearing about them being adopted.*

**What couldn't you live without?**

*Coffee. Don't bother speaking to me before I've had coffee!*

**What's a defining moment in your life?**

*Having children.*

**What are your three favourite things?**

*Hearing my kids laugh. Gluten Free Caramel Slices from Hill Street. Nandos. Love Peri Peri sauce on their hot chips!*

**What do you daydream about?**

*My husband Chris and I went to Malaysian Borneo for our honeymoon years ago and I'd love to go back there with the kids.*

**My motto is...**

*if I've had a bad day, there's still time to turn things around.*

**When I grow up I want to be...**

*Well I'm forty this year, so I'd say I'm pretty grown up now. I'd like to have time in the future to work with animals.*

**Why the Hobart Cat Centre?**

*I love cats, and am happy to support the people that help cats find better lives!*

**You can follow Georgina's foster kitties on Instagram @gshotter**

*For more information on volunteering or becoming a foster carer please visit our website or call into the Centre for a Application Form.*



**HELP US  
HELP CATS  
LIKE MR CUDDLES**

The Hobart Cat Centre relies on the help of our loyal and passionate team of volunteers.

**You can  
be part of  
something  
truly  
amazing**

We are seeking volunteers to join their dynamic team in a variety of roles to assist in all areas of the Centre.

to learn more please visit [hobartcatcentre.com.au](http://hobartcatcentre.com.au) or call **6278 2111**



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**When I was organising hors d'oeuvres the other night I decided that we needed a treat, and I bought some Tasmanian Atlantic Salmon. The smell of the Salmon immediately reminded me of my dearly departed 20 year old tabby, Eric, who was passionate about salmon. Whenever we bought salmon, he used to jump up on the bench and harass me until he got his share. It also made me remember about Eric's early days, when we use to treat him with a small fries when we went through the drive through to buy take away. He was also passionate about KFC, and he would go crazy when he could smell it come through the door. In retrospect, it was probably wasn't the best diet, but he did get to live 20 years.**

It also got me thinking about the first time Eric experienced snow, and how uncertain he was about taking his first steps on this funny white stuff, and the time he hopped onto the wood heater and burnt his feet (he never did that again).

All of these memories reminded me about how a cat can form such a special place in the family. They might not be

as active as dogs, but their personality is just as strong. That's why it gives me a lot of pleasure to look at the photos of families adopting their new feline companion on the Centre's Facebook page. The Facebook page is very impressive, and I would urge anyone who has not seen it to get online and have a look.

Since the last Scratching Post there have been a lot of new and exciting developments with the Centre. There has been the introduction of the vet service, the project on Bruny Island, and the exciting new "shelter buddy" computer system. For those visiting the centre, you may have seen the "L Plates". The shelter buddy system should greatly improve our knowledge of the cats at the shelter, and free up the staff from their administrative tasks to do what they like to do best, that is, to care for the cats.

Prior to these developments being implemented, and as part of a fact finding mission, the Centre Manager and myself visited a number of cat shelters in Victoria, and we were pleased to find that Hobart Cat Centre compares very well with our mainland counterparts. However, our inspections did highlight the importance of foster carers, and the overall benefit this has on the welfare

of the cats. I was lucky enough to foster care Mel from Melbourne for a week, and I would encourage anyone who is interested to consider becoming a foster carer themselves. The Centre has held an information night about foster caring, and will be holding further information nights in the near future which will be advertised on our Facebook page, and I would recommend that if you are curious that you should come along.

I have also been down to the Margate Op Shop, and have been able to grab some bargains. I am continually amazed by the volunteers that operate the Op Shop, and the range they provide. Yet again I would encourage anyone who has not been to the shop, to make sure they get there as soon as possible because there is a bargain with their name on it.

To sum up, I believe that with the assistance and enthusiasm of all the staff, volunteers and supporters, the Cat Centre is going from strength to strength with exciting times ahead. I hope everyone enjoys this edition of the scratching post, and I look forward to your ongoing support.

president

**David Rees**



Bill with partner Sharon

**Hobart City Alderman, conservationist and teacher, Bill is a big contributor to the board of the Hobart Cat Centre.**

*We have asked Bill a few questions:*

**Fun Fact about Bill...**

I love sci-fi/fantasy and dystopian films and TV series

**Who inspires you?**

David Attenborough

**What are you reading?**

Council agendas - they never end!

**When you aren't at work...**

I like to potter in the garden or walk along the Hobart rivulet

**What couldn't you live without?**

The TV, I love the ABC and SBS

**What are your three favourite things?**

A few old toys from the 60s I still have including a robot that still works. An old ice axe I bought in an op shop years ago and my felt hat

**Who would you like at your dinner party, living or dead. What would**

**be on the menu?**

I'd love to have David Attenborough for dinner

**What do you know now that wish you had known before?**

The importance of patience and perseverance

**Most embarrassing moment?**

I've had a few but nothing too serious

**What's a defining moment in your life?**

Working as an election observer in El Salvador in 1994 and working in China before it really opened up

**What do you daydream about?**

I daydream about many things but I think about how great Hobart is fairly often

**My motto is...**

It's better to do stuff than buy stuff

**When I grow up I want to be...**

A good decision maker

**Why the Hobart Cat Centre?**

I believe in animal welfare and wildlife protection. Being part of the Cat Centre Board helps me fulfil a passion I have.



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