

scratchingpost

Magazine of Ten Lives

June 2018

please
take
one!

WOLVERINE'S STORY:

THE HEALING FACTOR

INSIDE:

**WORKPLACE
VOLUNTEERING**



**WHERE DOES
YOUR CAT ROAM?**



**CATS IN THE
CLASSROOM**





Our fabulous foster carers have formed their own 'CATchup' group, meeting regularly for a coffee and a chat, along with organising fundraising raffles and teaching each other to make cat caves from sheep or alpaca fleece which they card themselves!

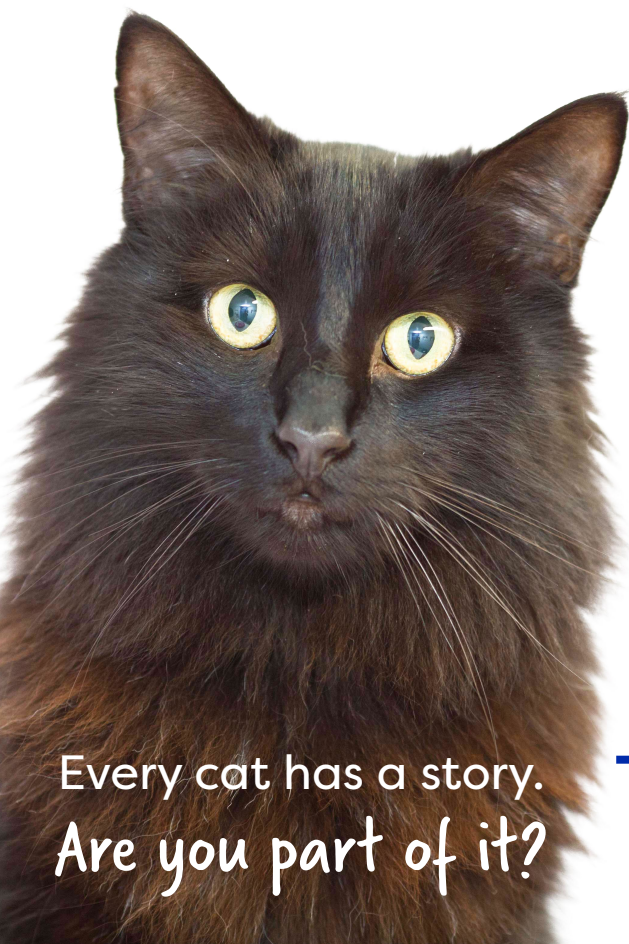
Their Christmas raffle raised enough funds to purchase a 'fogger' machine to thoroughly disinfect their homes between fosters and funds raised from their Easter raffle went towards purchasing disinfectant to use with the fogger. We are so thankful to have such wonderful foster carers who put in so much of their time to help us care for our kitties in need!



WILLOW DROPS IN

We had a very special visitor at the Centre on February 13th - the one and only Willow and of course her 'chauffeur' Rich! We're thrilled to see them both and they have kindly donated copies of 'Black Cats Tell All' which Willow features in for us to sell in our shop. Naturally no visit to the Centre would be complete without a few photos of our gorgeous kitties for adoption! You can follow Willow & Rich's adventures at vancatmeow.com

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Every cat has a story.
Are you part of it?

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INSIDE OUT:

TEN LIVES MANAGER, NOEL HUNT, WATCHING HIS CAT LILY IN HER OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE. LILY IS ONE OF FIVE KITTIES FEATURED IN THE FIRST SERIES OF INSIDE WITH CATS

INSIDE WITH CATS

Have you seen Inside With Cats, the five short films about 'inside' cats and their owners in Kingborough?

Our Manager, Noel Hunt, features in one, with his cat Lily, and his great method for keeping the litter tray outside the house in her enclosure.

Watch how different people have learned how to keep their cat safely inside, while giving it fresh air, exercise and lots of interesting things to look at and do. There are some ingenious ideas ranging from

walking harnesses, pet runs and using existing structures in the garden.

You can find the videos by going to www.kingborough.tas.gov.au and typing Inside With Cats in the search bar at the top of the page.

We can't wait to see the next set of videos – they'll show how to make your cat an active, happy and healthy inside cat.

The Inside With Cats project is a collaboration between Kingborough Council, Ten Lives Cat Centre, Tasmanian Conservation Trust and the Bruny Island Environment Network.



ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE HERE!

For the fourth year running we have improved on our previous years fundraising efforts through selling Entertainment Books and Digital Memberships, last year raising \$2,210!

We are aiming to keep our streak going and you can help by buying an Entertainment Book or a Digital Membership through us this year.

Still deciding which is right for you? Both contain hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, but the Digital Membership gives you the convenience of the traditional Entertainment Book on your Apple or Android device so you can redeem on the go. Order now so you don't miss out!

You can place your order via the link at tenlives.com.au or purchase and collect books from the Centre.



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Ten Lives would like to thank the following businesses for their support:





BRUNY ISLAND UPDATE

Ten Lives is a key partner in a whole of island cat management program on Bruny Island. Through the project we will gain valuable data, research and science that can help us better care for our cats, the environment and community on Bruny and then more broadly across Tasmania.

Partners include Kingborough Council, Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and the Environment (DPIPWE), the Federal Government, UTas, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmanian Land Conservancy, Bruny Island Environment Network, weeta poona, the Bruny Island Community Association

and local business including Pennicott Wilderness Journeys.

Tackling cat management on Bruny it became clear there were plenty of unanswered questions. How many feral cats and what is their distribution across North and South Bruny? What impact do domestic cats have? What is the baseline number of key mammal and bird populations? Will cat control at key sites have a positive environmental impact? Could there be any adverse impacts? What drives cat activity across the island and what are the interactions between cats, rabbits & quolls?

DPIPWE and UTas have been using cameras and sophisticated tracking techniques in their research helping to answer all these questions and more. The data gathered is helping us understand the impact of feral

cats on threatened and priority fauna and how to tackle control.

In 2019 Kingborough Council is bringing in a by-law that will allow people to own pet cats so long as they're desexed, microchipped and contained. This will be supported by cat containment subsidies and advice. Ten Lives will work with Kingborough Council on community promotion and education. Ten Lives plans to deliver Edu.Cat on the Island. A responsible pet cat ownership program delivered by Kingborough Council and Ten Lives is critical to the success of the project.

What can you do?

If you're visiting or living on Bruny, and have a keen eye for spotting cats, download the **FeralScan App** on your smartphone and report any feral cats you see.

Every cat has a story.



Are you part of it?

FOSTER



Photo: Discovery Circle/UniSA

CAT TRACKER - WHERE DOES YOUR CAT ROAM?

What do Tasmanian cats get up to when they're out?

You might have seen TV shows from other countries showing where cats go while they're out of the house. Owners are often surprised to see the maps showing where their cats go, even crossing busy roads and spending time in unusual places.

We were keen to bring this program to Tasmania so we can see how our cats behave, so we joined the Cat Tracker program, run by Discovery Circle at the University of South Australia.

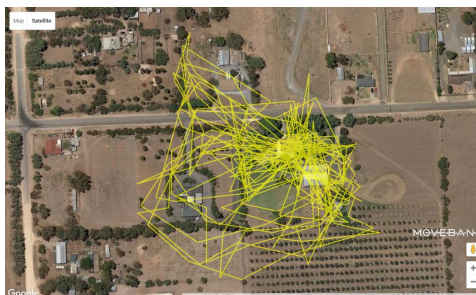
People have been signing up

to have their cats tracked and we're looking forward to sharing results showing where Tassie cats go.

Do the Cat Tracker survey

Whether you own a cat or not, we'd love you to join the 5000+ people who've already taken part in the Discovery Circle survey to help us to understand more about cats, their behaviours, and their relationships with their owners.

You can read more about the project at www.discoverycircle.org.au > click **Cat Tracker**.



Cat Tracker AUSTRALIA

TAKE A PERSONALITY TEST FOR YOUR CAT

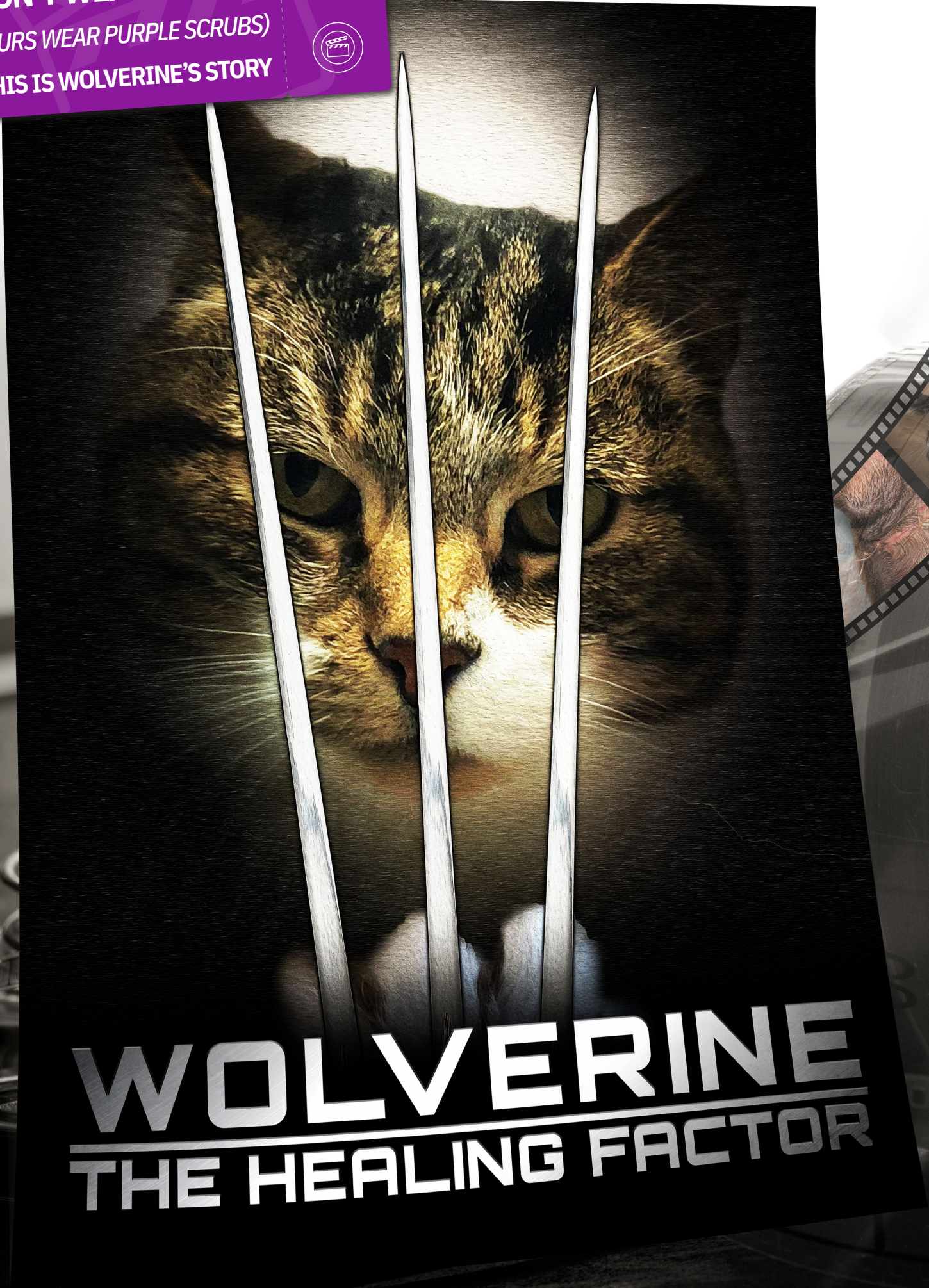
What type of personality does your cat have? Take the test for up to three cats at discoverycircle.org.au click Cat Tracker and scroll down to the **Personality Test** button.

Understanding your cat's personality helps you to give it all the comfort, security, exercise and entertainment options it'll need to be happy and healthy if you start keeping it in at night, or all the time.

**SOME SUPERHEROES
DON'T WEAR CAPES...**
(OURS WEAR PURPLE SCRUBS)
THIS IS WOLVERINE'S STORY



TenLives

A movie poster featuring a close-up of a cat's face with three metal claws positioned vertically over its eyes. The background is dark and textured. On the right side, there is a film strip graphic showing a close-up of a cat's eye.

WOLVERINE

THE HEALING FACTOR



WOLVERINE

LOCATION:
INTAKE ROOM

DATE:TIME
02/03/2018
10:30

WOLVERINE ARRIVED AT TEN LIVES AS A STRAY // A RESIDENT HAD NOTICED THAT HE HAD BEEN ROAMING THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD FOR AROUND THREE WEEKS // THEY HAD CONTACTED THEIR NEIGHBOURS AND PUT UP POSTERS BUT NOBODY RECOGNISED HIM // WOLVERINE HAD MANAGED TO GET HIS FRONT LEG STUCK THROUGH HIS COLLAR AND IT HAD BECOME INFECTED // THANKFULLY HE ALLOWED THEM TO REMOVE HIS COLLAR AND DISINFECT THE WOUND // CONCERNED FOR HIS WELFARE THEY BOUGHT HIM IN TO TEN LIVES

IT WAS DISCOVERED DURING HIS INITIAL EXAMINATION THAT WOLVERINE WAS IN FACT MICROCHIPPED // UNFORTUNATELY ALL CONTACT DETAILS FOR HIM WERE OUT OF DATE AND WE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL IN BEING ABLE TO CONTACT HIS OWNER

IT WAS ALSO DISCOVERED THAT HE HAD AN ULCER THE SIZE OF A 50 CENT COIN UNDER HIS RIGHT ARMPIT // THE WOUND WAS FLUSHED BUT WOLVERINE WOULD REQUIRE SURGERY TO REPAIR DAMAGED TISSUE

WOLVERINE

LOCATION:
VET SURGERY

DATE:TIME
06/03/2018
14:24

WOLVERINE UNDERWENT SOFT TISSUE SURGERY TO REMOVE THE TISSUE DAMAGED BY GETTING HIS COLLAR CAUGHT UNDER HIS ARM // THIS WOULD NOW ALLOW HIS WOUND TO HEAL PROPERLY // THE VET TEAM WERE SUCCESSFUL WITH THE SURGERY AND WOLVERINE WOULD NOW BE PLACED INTO FOSTER CARE TO RECOVER BEFORE HE WOULD AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION



WOLVERINE

LOCATION:
FOSTER CARE

DATE:TIME
11/04/2018
11:46

WOLVERINE LOVES A CUDDLE AND HIS FOOD // HE HAS BEEN RECOVERING FROM A COLLAR WOUND // THAT IS, HIS COLLAR GOT CAUGHT UNDER HIS ARM AND CUT THROUGH // HE IS JUST ABOUT HEALED AND NEEDS A LOVING HOME WITH A BIG SOFT CUSHION TO SLEEP ON (PREFERRED LOCATION) // I WAS GOING TO CHANGE HIS NAME TO 'CRUISER', UNTIL HE SHOWED US HIS WILD SIDE // THAT IS, THE USUAL RACING AROUND THE HOUSE WITH A WILD LOOK IN HIS EYE // I GUESS HE WAS FEELING BETTER!



WOLVERINE

LOCATION:
BOARDING

DATE:TIME
26/05/2018
10:54

WOLVERINE CAME BACK FOR A VET CHECK ON 10/05/2018 AFTER HAVING RECOVERED FROM HIS SURGERY AND HIS WOUND HAD HEALED // HE WAS MADE AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION AND MOVED TO BOARDING ROOM 12 WHERE HE WOULD WAIT FOR HIS FOREVER HOME

NOT SURPRISINGLY WOLVIE DIDN'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG // AFTER JUST OVER TWO WEEKS OF BEING AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION OUR BIG BRAVE BOY GOT TO START THE NEXT CHAPTER IN HIS STORY





STARTING YOUNG:

SILAS (LEFT) DIDN'T WANT PRESENTS FOR HIS 5TH BIRTHDAY AS HE WANTED TO HELP OUR KITTIES BY DONATING FOOD, WHICH HE EVEN BOUGHT IN GIFT WRAPPED! FREYA (CENTRE) AND KAEI (RIGHT) BOTH DONATED THEIR POCKET MONEY TO HELP US CARE FOR OUR KITTIES WHEN THEY VISITED US! THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



The Ten Lives 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.

How can I help?

You can help the Centre through donations.

We need old newspapers, woollen blankets, jumpers and towels which ensure our kitties stay warm, especially during our chilly Hobart winters.

We need practical items like copy paper, toilet tissue, dish liquid, washing powder, hand wash, paper towels, garbage bags and stationery products, which aren't very exciting but are extremely

necessary in the running of the Centre.

We need financial donations to 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.

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

Sponsorship

If you are unable to adopt a cat, but would love 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.

What we need

Office Supplies:

Copy paper (A4 & A3), pens, post-it notes, blu tac, tape, laminating pouches, staples & tissues

Cleaning Supplies:

Paper towel, toilet paper, hand soap, dishwashing liquid, disposable gloves - pref. Medical grade & latex-free

For the Cats:

Newspapers, blankets, sheets, towels, jumpers, toys, heat packs, pet beds/caves etc, cat trees, cat carriers.

Please note we are unable to accept donations of filled bedding items such as doonas or pillows.

Every cat has a story.



Are you part of it?

DONATE



STACKS OF SLACKS ON RACKS:
THERE'S ALWAYS GREAT BARGAINS TO BE FOUND AT THE OP SHOP!

SPREADING THE LOVE

Our fabulous volunteers squeeze as many donations as possible into the Margate shop, but there's only so much room. What do they do with extra items?

Your good quality children's books, toys or clothes might end up at a local crèche or be sent as part of the care packages to overseas charities. Books might help another animal welfare organisation or school doing a fundraiser.

"We want everything to be used. If we can't sell something here, or don't have space, we help other community groups with the good quality donations that come from our supporters," says Robyn Tacey, shop manager.

These boots were made for...

"Someone recently stole a brand new pair of donated work boots and left their manky old boots in their place. We put a note on the old boots asking whoever stole them to please return them," says Robyn.

Word obviously got around and it seems like our thief felt bad about stealing from a charity – the stolen boots were returned the next week.

Get some bargains and drop off your donations

If you have things to donate, we'd love you to drop them off to the Margate op shop or Ten Lives Cat Centre during opening hours so we can keep things safe and in great condition. We're happy to collect donations too, if you can't come in.

To arrange collections, call Robyn Tacey on 0428 292 624



MARGATE OP SHOP

1717 Channel Highway

CLOTHING BOOKS BRIC A BRAC

Open

Weekdays

10.00am – 3.30pm

Saturdays

10.00am – 3.00pm

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FRIDAYS



Photo: Rachael Daniels

As Ten Lives is a self-funded not-for-profit organisation we rely on funds generated from our own operations such as our retail store.

Thanks to your continued support we have an every increasing range for the cat and cat lover alike.

Along with the essentials like Hill's Science Diet food and litter, we have a great range of accessories including bowls, litter trays, collars, harnesses & leads, beds, toys, scratching posts, carriers, preventative treatments, traditional and interactive cat toys.

We also stock cat-related giftware for humans such as plush toys, books, apparel, homewares, games and jigsaw puzzles which all make great gifts.

Whether you're looking for the basics or exciting new products for your kitty or yourself - it's all here at Ten Lives!

The best part is 100% of funds

generated from our shop stay right here at Ten Lives so your purchase helps a kitty in need!

One of the key messages we promote for responsible cat ownership is containment. Along with selling cat enclosures we also have a fantastic range of interactive and educational toys to keep your kitty active!

The products in our Cat It Senses line stimulate your cat to use its sense of sight, touch, hearing, and smell. Unleash the inner tiger in your feline as your cat digs, scratches, pounces and paws!



The Cat It Senses range was specifically designed to be mixed and matched, so you can create a new set of toys and change your cat's play environment frequently!



Food Digger - \$28.95

The food digger stimulates your cat's instincts by providing food in tunnels for them to smell and dig out. The tunnels come in two different sizes, allowing you to change difficulty levels, and the sloped surface in front provides a space to place extra kibble that they don't have to work so hard for. When you're not at home kitty can start off with the easy stuff and work up to the hard, keeping them amused for ages! The food digger's design also makes it easy to disassemble and clean, so the only one working hard will be your cat.

Every cat has a story.



Are you part of it?

SHOP



Wave Circuit - \$29.95

The Cat It wave circuit is an innovative product that adapts to both your kitty and your home. Made of BPA-free materials, the wave circuit is a closed track rollercoaster-style cat toy. Your cat will be endlessly entertained and their toy will never get lost. With variegated height and adjustability, you can customise the track to keep your kitty interested and adapt it to suit your house or to pair it with other Cat It products.



Scratcher Tower - \$69.50

A scratching post with a difference. With eight configureable and replaceable discs, the Cat It scratcher allows you to customise to suit your cat perfectly, and keeps their claws away from your furniture!



Flower Fountain - \$79.99

For kitties who like their water fresh there's the Cat It flower fountain. The flower fountain comes with an adorable daisy head that provides a constant flow of fresh water. With a water-softening filter and three types of water flow options the flower fountain encourages your kitty to drink more and stay healthy.



Grass Planter - \$29.95

Did you know eating grass is good for your cat? It aids digestion and provides them with important vitamins. The Cat It grass planter is a tidy way to bring a little bit of green indoors for your kitty. With a low, stable design, special grid cover, drainage holes and vermiculite instead of soil, the grass planter is designed to prevent mess while providing your cat with the fresh grass they need.



Food Tree - \$39.95

Cats are predatory animals, their instincts are to hunt for their food. The Cat It food tree plays on these instincts to entice them to work for their meal. With three different difficulty levels, the food tree provides fun and play while preventing binge eating.



Wellness Centre - \$49.95

The Cat It wellness center helps your cat relax and lets it brush itself! The wellness center has a wide variety of textures, brushes and massage ridges, including two flexible combs that remove and collect loose hair.

To make the wellness center even more relaxing you can add catnip herbs to the top massager or spray catnip onto the cushion. Your kitty will love rolling around on their own personal wellness centre.



Photo: Adobe Stock

THE CAT NOSE - SOME INTERESTING FACTS

While cats are definitely in the back seat compared to dogs when it comes to sense of smell (sorry crazy cat people), they are still leaps and bounds ahead of us humans.

Some like to refer to the cat's sense of smell as its most important sense, and when living in the wild and fending for themselves cats certainly rely on it for a number of essential survival skills. They use their sense of smell for establishing territory, locating a mate, hunting, and for finding food and determining if it is fresh enough to eat. When it comes to the domesticated cats we keep as pets, there are a few features of cat scents and their sense of smell that can be useful to understand.

Common Smells

Perfumes, cigarette smoke, and air fresheners are all often found in or around our homes or on our clothes to varying degrees. Cats are very sensitive to these foreign smells and may become reactive. We recommend that people are aware of this when interacting with our cats in the shelter, remembering that any scents will be much stronger to the sensitive kitty nose. Last month on Facebook there were some posts circulating about pet owners unknowingly poisoning their pets with the use of essential oil burners in the home. A long list of essential oils was included, and it was stated that their use may make your pet very sick. While it is known that cats may dislike the scent of citrus and tea tree oils, the dose makes the poison. While essential oils should never be applied to the skin or coat, normal use of an oil burner in a well-ventilated home is unlikely to make your pet cat unwell.

Litter Box Complaints

Complaints about kitties not using their designated toileting area, i.e. the litter box, are fairly common. The first thing to check here is that the box is clean and without odour. Due to their enhanced sense of smell, a litter box that seems non-odorous to us may actually be offensive to your pet. While trialling different locations, different substrates, and different types of litter boxes all come into play, the first thing is to ensure is that the box you want the cat to use is up to their standards. This may involve providing two trays, so there is always a clean one to use, or cleaning the box multiple times each day.

Detecting Pheromones

Beyond the nose, cats have an extra organ specifically to detect and process pheromones. Pheromones are hugely important to cat communication. Have you ever seen a cat flehmen?! There's a new one for the vocabulary!

It is when a cat gives a raise of the top lip and slight opening of the mouth to expose the cats vomeronasal organ to the air to help detect pheromones. This organ is part of the cat's olfactory (sense of smell) system and it works together with the nose. Most animals have one, whereas humans only have the remnants of this organ which is no longer functional.

Producing Pheromones

Cats have scent glands along the tail, on each side of their forehead, on their lips, chin, and between the pads of their front paws, that produce pheromones. Behaviours such as rubbing their face on objects, rubbing up against furniture and owner's legs, scratching on a scratching post or furniture, or spraying/markings with urine, are all designed to leave a cat's scent within their territory. These behaviours deposit pheromones on both physical aspects of their environment but also on social contacts (other cats, humans, and other species). The social function of scent signals is to recognise members of the same group, and signal to leave non-members alone.

Cat Communication

Olfactory signals are very important for cats in both communication with other cats, and in leaving different signals for themselves around their environment. This gives them some sense of control over their environment. Facial rubbing - when your cat smooches you or gives you a head boop - is used in areas of the territory where the cat feels comfortable and unthreatened. Within the

shelter we try to keep bedding or boxes that a cat may have scent marked on with that particular cat if it moves within the shelter. This provides a familiar, soothing scent in the new space and thereby reduces stress. Urine spraying is often an indicator of a potential threat and this kind of marking is generally left in response to fluctuations in local social dynamics between cats i.e. social stress.



Shelter Applications

Within the shelter we use a pheromone product that contains a chemical copy of one of the facial gland pheromones secreted by cats. We have diffusers throughout the centre and like to spray it on the blankets of stressy cats. The product is called Feliway (produced by Ceva) and has been shown to reduce the stress of cats. Here we are recognising the importance of scent to cats in feeling safe and secure.

In conclusion, being aware of our kitties super sense of smell and their ability to communicate using pheromones can help to avoid problems. Whether it be wearing less perfume when interacting with cats or keeping a cleaner litter box, helping to minimise stress in order to prevent spraying or providing cats with calming pheromones in order to make them feel safe.

TEN LIVES VETERINARIAN
Dr Tess Vitesnik BVSc(Hons)

FATAL DISEASE OF CATS RE-EMERGES

Feline panleucopaenia, sometimes called cat plague, has been seen in shelters around Melbourne this month. The disease is caused by feline parvovirus (canine parvovirus can occasionally cause disease in cats too) and causes vomiting, bloody diarrhoea, lethargy, and sometimes sudden death. Cases have rarely been seen in Australia since the mid-1970s after being a common disease of the 60s and early 70s. Australia was the first country to develop an effective vaccine and after widespread administration the disease was pushed back into feral and unowned populations.

After almost half a century the disease re-emerged in Melbourne in 2014. There have been outbreaks in Melbourne each year since 2014, an outbreak in Mildura (regional Victoria) in 2015, and an outbreak in Sydney in 2016. More than 350 fatalities have occurred. All cases have been linked to municipal or private shelters and the cause linked back to inadequate vaccinations and biosecurity practices.

Here at Ten Lives we take in many feral or unowned cats each day, most of whom have never been vaccinated. New arrivals are carefully quarantined and vaccinations are given as soon as animals arrive at the shelter. We vaccinate our kittens more frequently than if they were in a home environment and ensure adults are up to date. While we hope we never have to go through what shelters in Melbourne are working through currently, we remain vigilant to the possibility of an outbreak here at Ten Lives.



Photo: Rachael Daniels

GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT:**COMMUNITY & EDUCATION MANAGER, ROSE BRAY, WITH OUR NEW EDUCATION OFFICER, THERESA STEPHENSON.**

Our Edu.Cat program is off to a terrific start, with schools embracing the program. Our educators will be in schools this year teaching Tasmanian children about Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) using the engaging subject of cats.

No wonder it's popular – Edu.Cat is the only program of its kind in Australia, and possibly the world.

"We've even heard from an interested teacher in Brazil," says Rose.

Don't pack your bags for Brazil just yet, Rose! We need you here in Tasmania.

Teachers love Edu.Cat because it's linked to the Australian Curriculum and provides them with complete lesson plans, so they can spend their time doing what they do

best: teaching. Children enjoy the challenging hands-on projects which encourage teamwork, problem-solving and innovative thinking. They also learn cool information they can share with families and friends.

In the Year 1 & 2 Edu.Cat program students study Science (living things have external features, grow, change and have offspring similar to themselves), Technology (characteristics and properties of materials and components), Engineering (the students design and construct a model of a cat, using materials that reflect the function of its body parts), and Maths including number, measurement and probability of offspring in the Kitten Maths Madness Game.

In other grades students do aspects of the Engineering process by drawing plans of a cat enclosure to scale (design, test,

evaluate and build a scale model), while others design and research the effectiveness of a cat toys etc.

The program's activities aim to engage students and inspire them in these professional fields, while empowering them to make positive choices in cat ownership.

"... Edu.Cat is so different, it doesn't require any additional work from our teaching staff and the program is linked to the Curriculum, it's a wonderful program." -- Scott Winkler Principal Emmanuel Christian School.

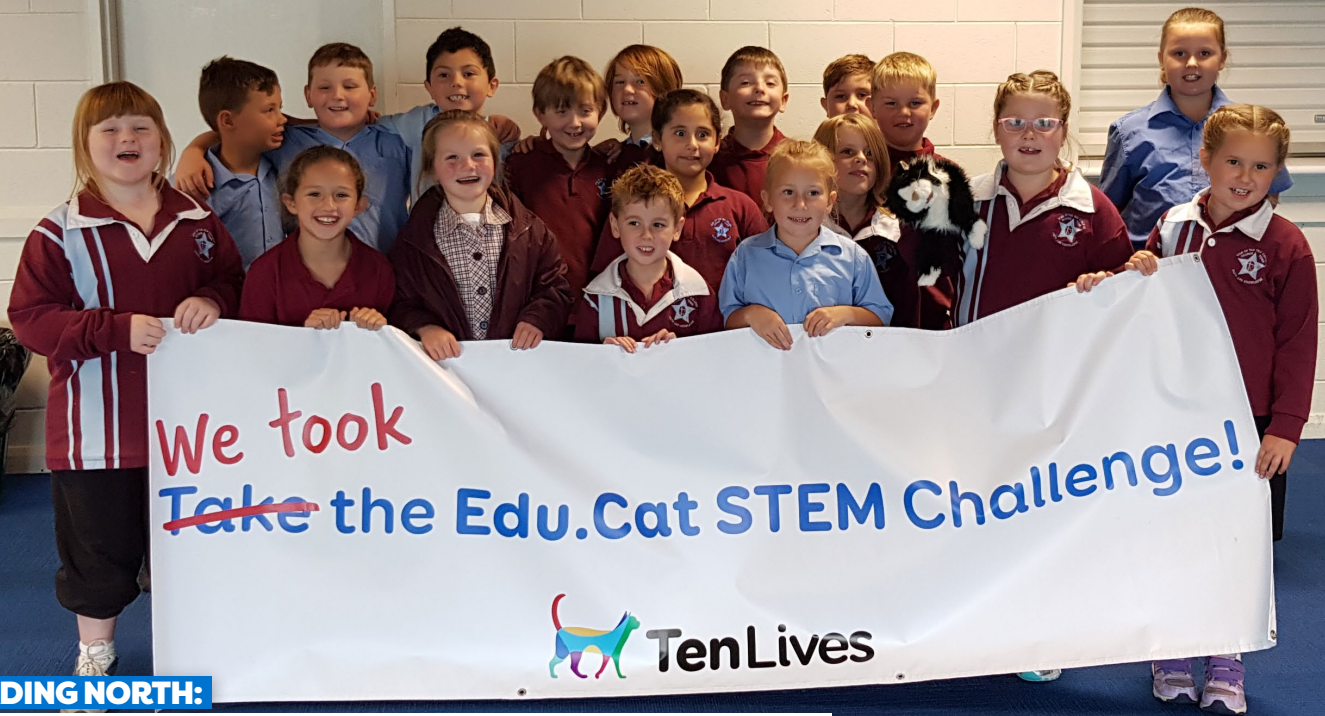
Our friendly Edu.Cat educators recognise that all schools and students have different needs, and they can modify the program to suit different learning requirements.

Every cat has a story.



Are you part of it?

EDUCATE



HEADING NORTH:

PREP/1/2 FROM STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC SCHOOL IN GEORGE TOWN
RECENTLY TOOK THE EDU.CAT STEM CHALLENGE!

Your support helps the Edu.Cat message to reach Tasmanians

Thanks to your support of Ten Lives, we've been able to put in the huge effort of developing Edu.Cat. We want to create social change so there'll be far fewer unwanted kittens being born, kittens and cats being abandoned or surrendered to shelters.

Edu.Cat focuses on issues surrounding cat welfare, cat management and the positive and negative impacts cats have on Tasmanian individuals, communities and wildlife. It is designed to create long term social change in how people care for cats in our communities and to help reduce the impact cats have on our environment. This is achieved through the subject matter of the program (cats) being tangible and appealing to students.

"If we engage children and their families in responsible cat ownership, and change public attitudes towards cats, we'll see fewer unwanted, sick, stray or injured cats and kittens in Tasmania as a result," says Rose.

"Edu.Cat will contribute to generational change to benefit cats, the community and the environment."

Edu.Cat is endorsed by Education for Sustainability Tasmania.

Meet our new Edu.Cat Educator

Welcome to Theresa Stephenson who has joined us as an education officer. Theresa is a trained teacher and will be joined by a Launceston-based team member later this year. They'll be aiming to reach all Tasmanian students with Edu.Cat – that's 44,000 students!

Get Edu.Cat at your school

Would you like to see Edu.Cat taught at your child's school?

Please show this article to your teacher and ask them to get in touch with us for more information.



Are you a teacher or principal who's interested in Edu.Cat?

We've recently held information workshops for teachers in New Town, Bellerive, Kingston and New Norfolk, and will be holding more in the coming months.

To book a session or get more information, please go to tenlives.com.au and click **Educate**, email us at: edu.cat@tenlives.com.au or call on 03 6278 2111.

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



As soon as we saw Lemmy it was love at first sight. He is the sweetest, most gentle and loving boy. our 15 month old daughter Eadie adores Lemmy and Lemmy adores her! They were both born in 2016... they will grow up together :)

- Zachary, Lemmy's Dad, adopted 2016



POSTAL CARD

The little cat (Archina) we adopted is getting bolder. This morning she came into my office and hopped up on the desk, just like our missing Pepper used to do. She still has not said a word, not even the tiniest meow. I suspect she may be mute. She can purr, but very quietly!

Ten Lives

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I fell in love with my little Archie instantly when I visited the Ten Lives Cat Centre. Archie and I bonded straight away and I knew that he just had to be part of my family! Archie is definitely one of a kind. He has such a huge personality, is very playful and loves nothing more than to cuddle his mummy (and eat!!!). He is also very talkative and meows 'mum'.

Thank you so much Ten Lives!

- Shannan, Archie's Mum, adopted 2017



Pippi

We came into the Ten Lives Cat Centre looking to adopt two other kittens but my sister fell in love with this tiny little black kitty so we ended up adopting her instead. She was cautious at first and didn't really like cuddles, but now she enjoys them and is a little clown who likes to run around getting into trouble.

- Maria, Pippi's Mum, adopted 2017



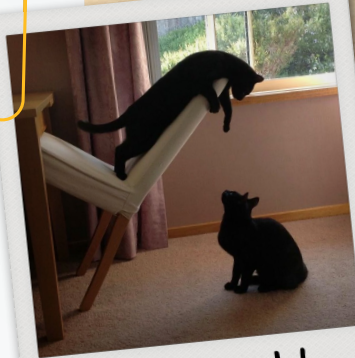
Sophie & Blackie

Both Sophie and Blackie are spoilt rotten by us and their grandparents. Blackie was quiet at first but very quickly came out of her shell. She loves climbing on clothes airers and also breaking them. Sophie loves cuddles and drinking from the tap in the bathroom.
- Sarah, Sophie & Blackie's Mum, adopted 2016



I went to the Ten Lives Cat Centre to find a black kitten after hearing on the radio that there was an overabundance of them. I ended up adopting two! They both settled in fantastically and are inseparable.

- Christopher, Benny & Hotchy's Dad, adopted 2013



Benny & Hotchy

I had been looking to adopt a kitten for a little while so I would always have a companion to come home to and hang out with. I found Aiko and played with her for a bit, then she curled up on me and fell asleep. I knew she would be purrfect! I brought her home and she made friends with our Smithfield Collies. Sometimes they get a bit much and she jumps in the bathtub to get away from them, but she is still top dog!
- Kenna, Aiko's Mum, adopted 2016



Anushka

Anushka was very quiet and shy in the centre. She had been there for two weeks already and I think it was because she just wanted to stay in her basket. However as soon as we got home she discovered a powerful voice and a talent for furniture hopping!
- Robyn, Anushka's Mum, adopted 2009



Aiko



Charlie

I started looking for a cat in late 2016. Sadly I knew that my elderly cat Gromit was not going to be around for much longer and I couldn't imagine life without a cat. I went to the Ten Lives Cat Centre with the intention of adopting a tabby like Gromit, but as fate would have it a ginger and white gentleman called Charlie chose me. Gromit passed away soon after and Charlie seemed lonely. I went back to the Cat Centre, again with the intention of adopting a tabby, but this time I was chosen by a tortoiseshell madam called Caramel. Charlie and Caramel accepted each other quickly and have been best friends ever since.

- Susan, Charlie & Caramel's Mum, adopted 2016 & 2017



Caramel

I will commence my report by thanking the ongoing support of numerous people in the operation of the Ten Lives Cat Centre. This support has helped us greatly through the many changes over the last few years, and I remain excited about the prospects for the Centre's future.

It has been just 12 months since the Ten Lives name was launched. Over that period Ten Lives has developed a significant public profile through the work that has been undertaken, and through the various media outlets. If anyone has seen the "every cat has a story" clips on Facebook, or the various TV advertisements, you will fully appreciate the professionalism of the Centre which has been driven by our centre manager and the creative genius of the creator of the clips and advertisements, Joel Diprose.

The focus of the Centre has changed considerably from being simply the "cats home", to the "Centre for Cats". We do not want to be seen just as the place where unwanted cats are left. With our very experienced staff, we consider the Centre has developed extensive knowledge of all issues regarding cats and their place in the community. To increase this knowledge, we have invested time and resources into various community projects into cats, so we can better understand the habits and issues that arise with our feline friends.

In particular the Ten Lives school education project Edu.Cat has been critically acclaimed and

accepted by many schools. The Edu.Cat program is a targeted strategy at today's youth, so the children who will be tomorrow's parents and next leaders in the community will fully understand the responsibilities and issues regarding cat ownership and care for the animals generally. It operates under a comprehensive syllabus which has been developed for primary school students and has been implemented into various schools under the guidance of our education officer Rose Bray. The children who undertake this course now understand that with owning a cat or kitten comes responsibility, and with this education looking after the cat or kitten becomes far more rewarding. It is our hope with the education and awareness that community attitudes will change, and an unwanted litter, or an unloved stray cat roaming the streets and attacking native animals, will be a thing of the past. I would urge for those interested about the Edu.Cat program to look at our website or make enquiries when you next visit the Centre, and I would expect you to be very surprised and impressed by the program.

However, it does take a considerable amount of time and effort to change community attitudes. It also takes money. At Ten Lives, through generous support and careful management over the years we have been able to maintain a relatively strong financial position. We survive without government funding to maintain our various operations and projects, and we are proud to be

a strong and fully independent organisation.

Sometimes support comes from the most unexpected areas. For example, last year the plumbing association as part of their generosity projects arranged for additional heating to be installed at the centre. The staff and cats who used to freeze in the winter can now enjoy more comfortable conditions.

As I have stated in previous reports, the Centre has a proud history of more than 70 years, and with Ten Lives we have been able to proceed to a very exciting future direction. However, to continue to provide the high standard and to be leaders with cats and cat management, we do need to rely on ongoing community support. We cannot rely on governments or "others" to do this work. We are very wary about being complacent, and therefore, I would urge that anyone who has seen the great work that Ten Lives is undertaking to give consideration to making a donation, whether large or small, to help the ongoing work of the centre. It can be as easy as making a provision in your Will, for which many cats will thank you!

As we are entering winter, hopefully not as cold as previously, Ten Lives will continue to be there to care for cats, the environment and the community.

President
David Rees

Every cat has a story.



Are you part of it?

VOLUNTEER



WORKPLACE VOLUNTEERING:
FREYA LANGFORD-SIDEBOTTOM WITH THE 2018 EDITION OF OUR ANNUAL CALENDAR

Raine & Horne Hobart's involvement with Ten Lives is an excellent example of ways that local companies can volunteer to help us in a non-traditional way.

For the past 3 years Raine & Horne Hobart have been volunteering their time and talented staff in assisting with the annual production of the Ten Lives fundraising calendar. In exchange for the reception staff working on the layout and graphic design of the calendar each year, Raine & Horne in return are given a full page advertising space in the calendar.

Cloud-based technology such as Dropbox means that designer Freya Langford-Sidebottom has the flexibility to work around normal tasks and not even need be on site at Ten Lives.

"The good thing about it is I can do the volunteer work at my own

pace, stop when I need to do actual work, then pick up the Cat Centre stuff as and when I'm able to. It's perfect!" Freya said. "In this day and age it's so easy to send a file or screenshot to someone over email or social media, which means that I don't ever have to wait long for responses, input or approval on the work I'm doing. It's also great that I don't have to physically go anywhere to do the work which allows me to do both my day job and my volunteer work in the same place at the same time. It's a win for everybody!"

Raine & Horne Hobart Business Manager, Annisa Burns, said: "The volunteer work does not afford too much disruption to our work day. We know that Freya's graphic design talents are quite rare in the workplace, and other team members can pick up some of the more general duties that Freya would normally do during this time."

The benefits of workplace volunteering goes both ways.

"Raine & Horne Hobart values any contribution it makes to the community. There is the feel good aspect of making someone's day better, but there is also the sense of worth in being part of the community. It is the local communities that help drive business and sometimes that can be forgotten." Annisa said, "If you can afford some time, even just an hour a week, go ahead, jump in and volunteer! You have nothing to lose and everything to gain."

Freya's response to knowing that their contribution has helped us care for literally thousands of cats?

"It's a privilege and an honour to be able to help out Ten Lives in this way, I know the staff AND the cats appreciate it!"

Annisa added "That feels really good! If we can provide anything further we are only too happy to help."

Take the Edu.Cat STEM Challenge



Photo: Mat Farrell / The Mercury

Engage and excite your students in science and STEM.

- **Edu.Cat** is a new Australian Curriculum aligned Feline Education Program in Tasmania.
- **Edu.Cat** is an innovative education program developed by experts in education and cat welfare to foster responsible cat ownership.
- **Edu.Cat** is designed to empower and inspire students from Foundation to Year 7.
- **Edu.Cat** provides incursions and workbooks that ignite student engagement in the science curriculum through STEM Challenges.
- **Edu.Cat** provides a practical teacher guidebook with tailored activity plans based on hands-on team challenges relating to student's everyday lives.

Edu.Cat is **FREE** to all schools in Tasmania, including incursions, teacher guidebooks, activity plans, student workbooks, posters, online resources and more. **Bookings now available for 2018 - Call and Book Today!**



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