

scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Summer 2020



Against the Odds:

Hardy Levi's Journey to Health

Vikki's Milestone Kitten:
Five Hundred and Counting

Harness Training:
All the Tips and Tricks

Farewell to 'Fix-it' Pat:
Op Shop Legend Calls it a Day

ALSO: CATS AND CHRISTMAS :: TOUR DE TEN LIVES :: RICHMOND PROJECT

We're building them a brighter future...

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?

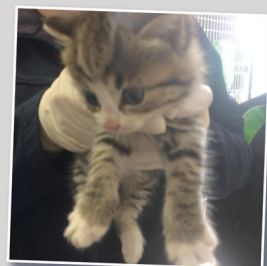


Cover

Model: Pickle

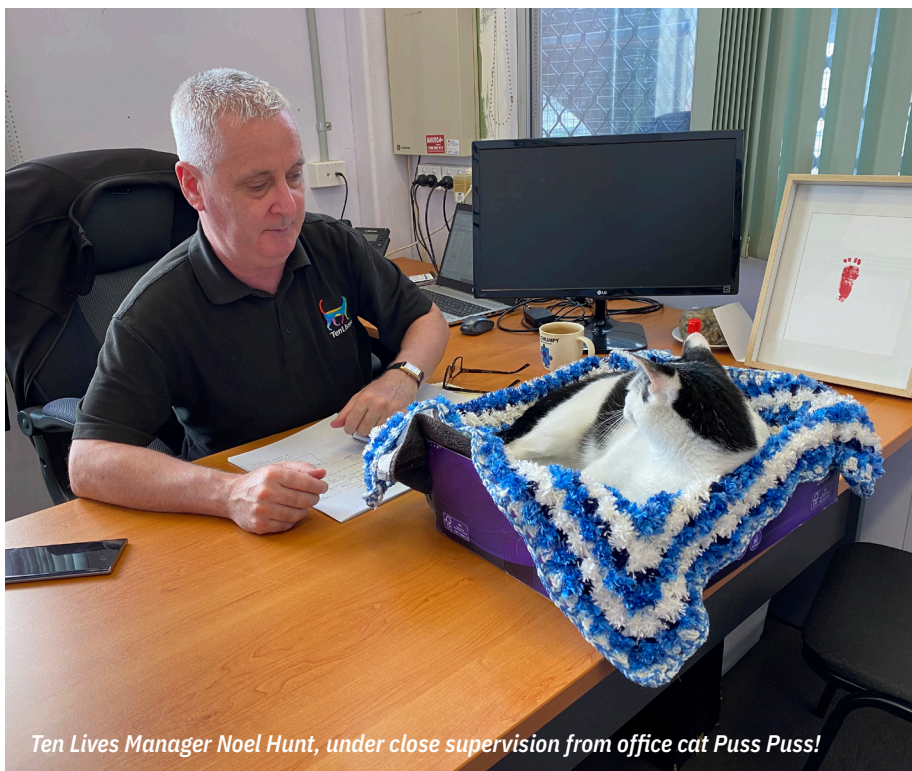
Photographer: Rachael Daniels

Pickle came into the care of Ten Lives as a stray on the 26th of October 2020 when she was approximately five weeks old. She was brought in as a 'singleton', meaning she was without a mother or siblings. She was suffering poor body condition and was placed into foster care so she could gain weight and be big enough to be desexed and adopted.



Pickle's intake photo

Every cat has a story. Are you part of it? **FOSTER** @tenlives.com.au



Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt, under close supervision from office cat Puss Puss!

Manager's Muse

Welcome to the Summer 2020 edition of the Scratching Post. Congratulations to Joel & Freya on the new look magazine style Scratching Post which hit the streets in Spring this year, it looks and reads fantastic.

Now more than ever it's important that Ten Lives effectively communicates the activities we're undertaking, as we look to a major upgrade of the Centre to meet the ever increasing demands on our services. During the coming year we will be busy making improvements that will form part of the full Building Project.

I hope you enjoy reading about all the things we're up to at the moment, and thank you for being part of our story.

- Noel

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The Honourable Kate Warner, AC,
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Ambassador:

Dave Noonan

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Ten Lives

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We're building them a brighter future...



Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan, and Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt, being shown by Josh Muskett from Podmatrix the construction of a pod similar to what will be built for our new facility.

Dave rallies local business: A true community project

With many community projects already under his belt, Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan knew that when he asked Tasmanian Businesses for help with our Building Project he would get it.

"I went to the Podmatrix boys and said 'would you like to get involved with this project?' and straight away they put their hand up." Dave said.

Craig Swan and Josh Muskett from Podmatrix were invited for a tour of the Centre, "Noel and the team gave us a better understanding of the service that they do provide to the community." Craig said, "It's amazing what they do, way above and beyond what we thought, so it's important that they get corporate support in their project."

Podmatrix's innovative offsite

construction technique means there will be less disturbance than a traditional build onsite at the Cat Centre.

"It's going to be possible to construct the pods offsite in Cambridge where Podmatrix is and bring them in, and over a couple of days put them in. There will be about 15 to 17 pods involved in the whole project, they go in as individual little units and connect up." Dave said.

Thank you to Clennett's, Elliott's Crane Hire, Clark Windows, R&TL Tatnell and Dulux who have come on board following Podmatrix's involvement.

"There are so many ways that people can help, everything from electricians to plumbers." Dave said, "As the project goes on we're going to need that support and the more in-kind support, the better we are."

Building Project Partners

Construction:



Supplies & Services:



Can they **COUNT ON** your support?



Minister Barnett holding Pickle the kitten, with Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt, and Dogs' Homes of Tasmania CEO Michael Sertori with Norm the dog.

Infrastructure Investment:

Ten Lives Cat Centre, along with the Dogs' Homes of Tasmania, received a much needed funding boost for upgrades of their shelter facilities in this year's State Budget.

As part of the State Government's focus on infrastructure investment in this year's State Budget, Ten Lives, along with the Dogs' Homes of Tasmania, will each receive \$200,000 to be spent on much needed upgrades of their shelter facilities.

Primary Industries and Water Minister Guy Barnett visited Ten Lives for the announcement.

"It's a great day for dogs and cats in Tasmania that's for sure!" he said addressing staff and volunteers from both organisations. "We think this will help support and care for our cats, our dogs, and we want to back you in on doing that."

"We know you've got a big vision, we're proud of that, we're backing you in."

Ten Lives Manager, Noel Hunt, was thankful for the Government's

backing for our Building Project.

"I know that this significant contribution by the State Government is going to tip this project over the line to being a goer and it's going to make a big difference," he said, "We're missing things like quarantine facilities to deal with contagious diseases, so this is going to make a big, big difference."

"It's a cause of celebration for us!" Dogs' Homes of Tasmania CEO Michael Sertori said, "What a vote of confidence this is in the animal welfare sector."

With your help, we can improve the well-being of cats – and people – in our community.

You can invest in a brighter future that they can COUNT ON.

To realise Ten Lives' vision for animal welfare in our community, we are raising \$1.2 million in community gifts to build our new shelter.

In the first five years of our new facility:

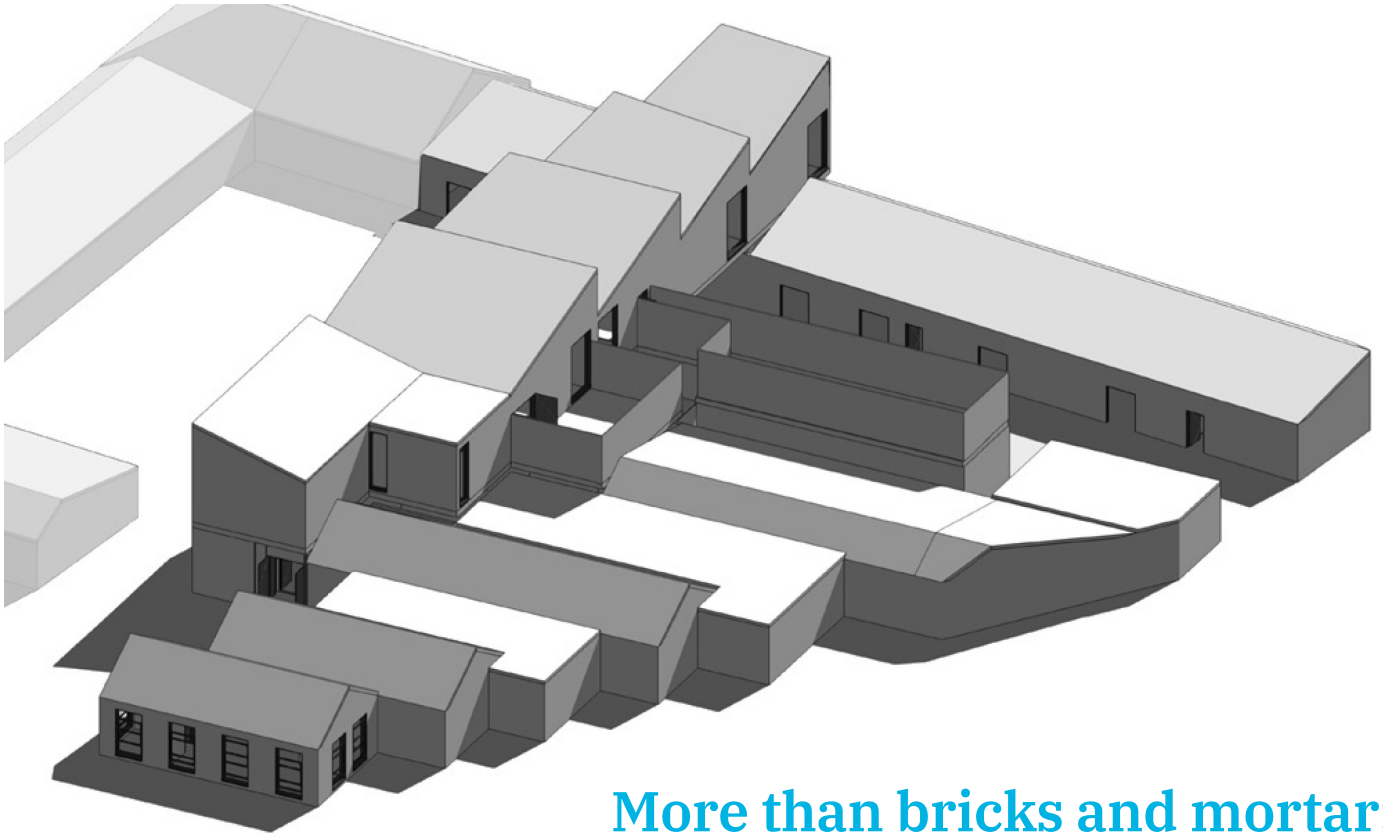
- 15,000 homeless, lost, and abused cats will receive shelter, care, and love
- 100,000 students of all ages will be engaged in our community education and outreach initiative Edu.Cat each year
- 55,000 vet treatments
- 7,000 critical surgeries
- 24,000 foster carer cat and kitten consultations
- 2.2 million nights of foster care
- 100,000 volunteer hours worked at the Centre
- 2.6 million fauna saved from feral cats
- And so much more!

Please join us...

Together, we can make a difference they can
COUNT ON

Donate now at
tenlives.com.au

We're building them a brighter future...



More than bricks and mortar: **Building the future**

The building program addresses all challenges currently faced in the existing facility, allowing the Ten Lives Cat Centre to fulfil longer-term goals and objectives that will ultimately save more lives.

At the heart of our mission is the ability to provide appropriate shelter and care for cats in need.

Our facility no longer meets our needs for proper care and disease management of cats housed in the shelter; there are very limited means to fully isolate ill or contagious cats.

There is no dedicated foster care vet consultation room in which to perform exams or provide treatment. The busy reception area has inadequate space to efficiently manage the volume of

visitors, including surrenders and foster care appointments during the busy kitten season.

The new shelter will allow us to separate entrances and lobby areas for foster carers, stray intake, and adoptions to streamline shelter flow and provide an ideal experience for visitors.

There will be distinct spaces for consultation rooms, examination and treatment areas, isolation, and surgery.

The public will experience improved adoption and retail space to help with finding our cats their forever homes, including private and quiet indoor adoption counselling and “get acquainted” areas suitable for adopter-cat interactions.

It will provide a dedicated area

for staff and volunteer training, Edu.Cat education courses, field trips, and public cat training classes.

Laundry, storage, workspaces and service areas will be located centrally to maximise efficiency and maintain focus on animal care.

The new facilities will be a place of health and happiness. A warm, welcoming, and bright community destination — one with spaces that work for the cats, the people who care for them, and the community.

We invite you to learn more about this project and join us in making a difference that they can COUNT ON. Visit tenlives.com.au

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?

While the current temporary buildings allow us more space, they are not ideally located to provide optimal work flow and movement for our cats or people.



VET CONSULT



RECEPTION



STAFF AREA



MARKETING



7HOFM breakfast host Kevin 'Johnno' Johnson with Ten Lives foster carer Vikki Burnett and Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan after a Cat Chat segment.

Ten Lives has been excited to partner with radio station 7HOFM for a weekly Cat Chat segment, providing updates on the Building Project and talking all things cats!

If you've been tuning in to Sarah, Mick & Johnno for Breakfast on 7HOFM around 8:40am of a Tuesday morning, you would have caught our new 'Cat Chat' segment.

No stranger to the microphone, Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan, usually with a special guest - both hoomin and feline - talk all things cats, giving updates on what's happening at the Cat Centre along with updates on the Building Project.

The Cat Chat segment has taken Ten Lives and the Building Project to a new audience, and rallied support for the project, not only from the public but the team at 7HOFM as well.

"Ten Lives are incredibly appreciative, it's just amazing how the community has come on board." Dave said.

Breakfast presenter Sarah Morrison was one who came on



Sarah recreating the famous scene from The Lion King during her visit to Ten Lives.

a behind the scenes tour of Ten Lives, to find out first hand the extent of the vital work that we carry out on a daily basis.

"I went out there last week and had the wonderful grand tour of the facility, but they are in desperate need to have a proper space for these cats that are coming in off the street, and for the amazing people who are part of the foster program." she said.

You can listen to all the Cat Chat episodes on our Facebook page.



*Lounging Levi, rehabilitated and ready for adoption.
PHOTO: Rachael Daniels/rachaelphotography.com
INSET: Levi happy in his new forever home!*



Hardy Levi's Journey to Health

ARTICLE BY: Jed Dolwin, Ten Lives.

Like his namesake, Levi is made of tough stuff and his story is a lovely one of winning against the odds. At almost two years of age, Levi spent his time as a "friendly stray" living under a bridge in the New Norfolk area, but, as winter took hold, he was looking a bit bedraggled and a Good Samaritan thankfully brought him into the Ten Lives Centre at the beginning of June.



Happy "Gotcha Day" with Margaret!

Upon arrival to the Centre, every cat gets an initial health check and Dr Tess Vitesnik, Ten Lives Head Veterinarian, found no shortage of issues for Levi. He had old fight wounds around his head and neck, a small tear on one of his eyelids (no: tear, not tear!), mild gingivitis, some teeth missing, and dry scabs on his chest and backside which had matted over with fur and made him look decidedly scruffy. His coat was stained, there was some evidence of fleas and, to top it all, he tested positive for FIV – the feline version of HIV. Despite the list of maladies, he had a good temperament, and it was decided we would do everything we could to help rehabilitate him.

He was housed in our hospital wing for a week where he was microchipped, desexed, dewormed, defleaded, vaccinated, and put on antibiotics to solve

the skin issues. A busy week for Levi, but by the end of it his condition was stable, and he was placed in our Boarding area while his Tomcat smell dissipated!

By the end of June his skin was improving but we found he was scratching himself a lot, causing raw patches on his chest and shoulder. What had been assumed to be old fight wounds, which should have healed up without issue, seemed to have an underlying allergy component, so the Vet Team tried an anallergenic diet and it did the trick! It took a couple of weeks but Levi's skin condition improved a lot, the scabs started to heal and through it all he was very chill and affectionate.

Come mid-July, Levi was placed into a lovely foster home with Caitlin and Chris, to see how

How can you help cats like Levi?

Levi's story demonstrates the effort that Ten Lives sometimes has to go through to rescue and rehabilitate an unwanted cat and, unfortunately, it can be at a significant cost.

Ten Lives operates as a self-funded charity with no ongoing support from the government. The fees we charge at adoption only cover roughly half our regular costs of rehoming a cat, or like in Levi's case, much less than that.

A significant part of the Centre's budget is spent on veterinary care and the foster program, without which Levi would not have recovered. Any support you can give us is gratefully received: from waiving the charge if you buy something in our Retail Shop, to one-off donations, a regular sponsorship, or even leaving a bequest in your Will.

Visit tenlives.com.au/donate to find out all the ways that you can donate.

he would cope in a home environment and to ensure the special food was going to keep him itch and scab-free.

Fortunately, Caitlin and Chris are wonderfully patient, and they really fell for Levi. Caitlin told us that, despite his hardships, Levi is one of the most chilled out cats, and often relaxed in Chris's arms, enjoying a belly rub. Despite his stray beginnings, he was unfazed by constant attention and pampering, just happy to have company. He's still an adventurer at heart though and Levi took to wearing a lead and harness like a duck to water... or a cat to cat nip, offering a soft meow at the door when he fancied a walk.

After an initial skin flare, which settled down with a course of steroids, they challenged Levi with some normal food but within days he regressed to scratching again. So, through October, he stuck with his special food and, slowly, the

scratching stopped and his skin finally cleared up beautifully.

With one last vet check-up he was deemed to finally be ready to go up for adoption. Caitlin & Chris said a sad farewell and, after five long months since first arriving at the Centre, he was ready to find his forever home.

On the 10th of November, after patiently waiting in his adoption pen, the day that we all work towards at Ten Lives arrived! Margaret came in to look for a companion and says "he was the first one I saw and I really liked him – he was beautiful". She was going to think about it and come back the following day but, as she was leaving, Levi ran and smooched up at the door and it was enough – she thought she'd better have him! So now he is a happy, only child, being spoiled every day. When asked how he is settling in, Margaret said "he has settled in like he has lived here all his life! He's been so



Photos of Levi in foster care snuggling with Chris, and having fun outside on his harness.

relaxed and seems very happy. He sleeps next to me on the bed and sits on my lap to watch TV with me."

Well deserved, and happy days indeed for a cat who is finally enjoying his Tenth Life!

The hardest thing for a foster carer is to return a lovely cat to the Shelter for adoption, and Levi was no exception. To help him settle into his new home Caitlin generously donated his denim tunnel, a blanket, a bed and some toys that Levi loves to play with, so these went with him when Margaret adopted him. She says of Caitlin: "She has done a wonderful job caring for him, he's a lovely boy!" Visit tenlives.com.au/foster to apply to be a foster carer.



Farewell to 'Fix-it' Pat!

Pat Langford (left), with Margate Op Shop Manager Robyn Tacey on Pat's final day at the Margate Op Shop.

After nearly 22 years Pat has decided to hang up her Op Shop apron.

ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose, Ten Lives.

Ten Lives recently farewelled long term Op Shop volunteer Pat Langford, after an impressive 22 year run.

A celebratory morning tea was held on Pat's final day, attended by volunteers past and present, along with staff who travelled down from the Cat Centre.

Tears were shed as Margate Op Shop Manager, Robyn Tacey, fondly farewelled Pat and reflected on their years together at the Op Shop.

"My daughter would always call Pat 'Miss Fix-it'. Anything that ever needs fixing in this place I'll say to Pat 'Can you fix this?'" Robyn said, "I don't know what I'm going to do without her."

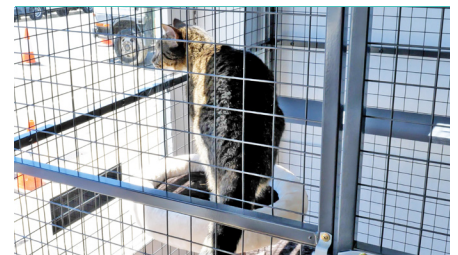
Pat received flowers from the Ten Lives Board for recognition of her many years of service.

"It would have been 22 years in March, that's absolutely amazing! It's impressive volunteering and commitment in anybody's book," Ten Lives Manager, Noel Hunt said, going on to remark of the uniqueness of the Op Shop and it's importance within the local community.

"This whole shop and the community here is something pretty special in itself. You couldn't set out to design this and make it happen. The chemistry between the team just makes it work."

We will miss you Pat!

BELOW: Pat Receiving her award for 20 years' service from Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania.



Thor: First kitty for adoption at North Hobart

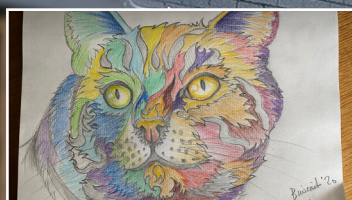
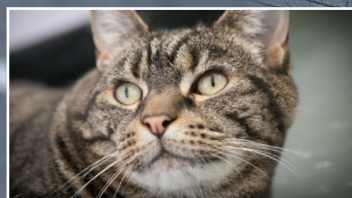
A cat-walk runs nearly the length of the store at 222 Argyle Street, joining together two large cat enclosures in the front window and the library.

3 year old Thor became the first cat available for adoption at North Hobart and has proved to be a very popular boy with both our customers and the Op Shop volunteers!

Our Op Shops generate much needed funds for Ten Lives. Pop in and rummage around to find some preloved treasure for yourself at Margate or North Hobart!

BELOW: Mural Cat Biscuit, Jamin's Biscuit sketch, and Jamin hard at work on the mural!

OP SHOP



Open for Business!

Not only does “every cat have a story”, but our mural does as well!

We were fortunate enough to have a blank canvas when planning our new Op Shop and knew we had to do something eye-catching... What better than a giant kitty looking over Argyle Street? We expect the mural to become a Hobart landmark - everyone will know where the giant colourful cat is!

OP SHOP MURAL CAT: BISCUIT

This big girl with her big personality became the Ten Lives Office Cat, and as a result she received lots of attention and Facebook admirers. She needed a quiet home without kids or other pets, and an understanding and patient owner who was also prepared to help Biscuit with her much needed weight-loss journey.

Finally this beautiful girl caught the attention of local personality Tori Hodgman. She totally fell in



Biscuit's hoomin, Tori Hodgman, with artist Jamin during the painting of our mural at 222 Argyle Street.

love with Biscuit, and was able to provide this diva with the perfect quiet and loving home she deserved!

OP SHOP MURAL ARTIST: JAMIN

For anyone who may not already be familiar with Jamin and his work, you can spy his large and incredible murals all around many businesses and installations in Southern Tasmania.

We are absolutely thrilled with the final result, which took Jamin 3 days of painting to complete, and Ten Lives is incredibly proud to have Biscuit, larger-than-life, to landmark our North Hobart Ten Lives Op Shop!

We had the official opening of our new Op Shop at 222 Argyle Street on September 17th. Thanks to Edge Radio 99.3FM who were broadcasting live from 5pm to 7pm and to everyone who attended - a great night was had by all!



Cr. Will Coates, Ald. Simon Berahkis, Senator Eric Abetz, Noel Hunt & David Rees



Rachael & Paul Daniels with Rose Bray



Gabby & Clint from Edge Radio 99.3FM



Tori Hodgman & Dr Katrina Ward

Tour de Ten Lives

TASSIE'S ¼ TOUR

29 AUGUST - 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

2020 TOUR DEBRIEF

ARTICLE BY: JED DOLWIN, TEN LIVES

It was during the great lockdown of 2020 that the President of Ten Lives, David Rees, came up with his 'hair-brained' idea of a 21-day sponsored cycle ride, dubbed "Tour de Ten Lives" - designed to mimic the Tour de France with a daily ride of a quarter the distance of the French stage. For three weeks, with only two rest days, dozens of keen cyclists set their alarm to join David in cycling 40 to 50km around the suburbs of Southern Tasmania.

But, the group weren't satisfied with cycling just ¼ of the French race, so they expanded one day into a full-length version. The riders started at 6am in Orford, and wound their way back to Hobart via Richmond, Sorell, Seven Mile Beach, Lauderdale, Tranmere, Government House, Kingston, Leslie Vale, and Neika before finishing at the top of Mt Wellington - 175km and over 2,000m climb. It took almost 11 hours, but six riders and one runner reached the summit just as daylight was fading! An amazing effort - and weren't they pleased that David had the foresight to arrange a rest-day to follow!

Of course, the group had to have a proper race somewhere

as well, so Stage 20 at Orford was held as a 36km time trial. Jack Anderson took the prize, completing the ride in 1hr 6min 12secs.

In all, the tour clocked up 1,025km and over 20,000m climbing. The Yellow Jersey went to Simon Thiessen who cycled every stage ("to ensure David didn't skip any") and Michael McIntyre took King-of-the Mountain for his awesome attack on Mt Wellington. Tim Jones got a special mention for some fearless down-hill descents and Marcus Bowker won Gentleman of the Tour.

Surprisingly, not everyone likes cycling, so Jacqui Guy made her own version of the tour by running a third of every stage - superhuman effort, indeed! Others helped out in various ways, with Noel Hunt giving a trumpet call of the French National Anthem to start the last day's ride; Ten Lives Board Members cooking the snags; and many Ten Lives volunteers giving behind-the-scene support.

It was a pleasure to see some dignitaries joining in the fun, with Mayor Robert Young waving off the riders on the final day,

and Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania and Ten Lives Patron, along with her husband Richard Warner AM, joining the ride. The day turned into a huge celebration with the Governor and fellow riders doing the "traditional" 8 laps, in grand Champs-Élysées-style around Orford, with some sneaky glasses of champagne along the way.

Tassie-born Nathan Earle, currently with the Japanese Team UKYO, joined in for a couple of rides, and gave us a good insight into the training program and characters in the world of professional cycling. And wasn't it fitting that this year, Tasmania's own Richie Porte stood on the podium in Paris, finishing 3rd in the Tour de France? Also, Pro Cyclist and Tasmanian road champion, Nicole Frain, joined in for Stage 17 and, like Nathan, gave everyone a good insight of the hard work and pitfalls of pro cycling.

The Tour raised over \$27,000 in much-needed funds towards the vital Ten Lives Building Project. A huge and heart-felt thank you to all involved!

STAGE 1





STAGE 2



STAGE 3



STAGE 4



STAGE 5



STAGE 6



STAGE 8



STAGE 9



STAGE 10



STAGE 12



STAGE 14



STAGE 15



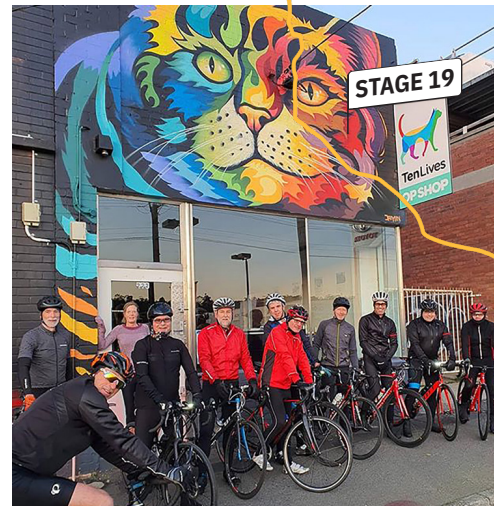
STAGE 16



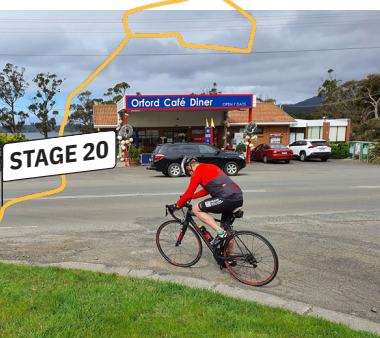
STAGE 17



STAGE 18



STAGE 19



STAGE 20



STAGE 21

Tour de Ten Lives

TASSIE'S 1/4 TOUR

29 AUGUST - 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



PMM Real Estate sponsored five stages including our BBQ open day.

The Tour would not have been the success it was without the financial support from the daily stage sponsors along with the event sponsors and the raffle sponsors. Watch their Sponsor Spotlight videos to find out why they became involved, available on our YouTube and Facebook or at tenlives.com.au

Daily Stage Sponsors:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1 E.R. HENRY WHERRETT & BENJAMIN | 2 Councillor Bill Harvey
City of Hobart | 3 Timothy James
Cat Society |
| 4 Chris Allfree | 5 TRY A tri SWIM RIDE RUN | 6 Councillor Bill Harvey
City of Hobart |
| 7 HOBART FINANCIAL PLANNING | 8 PMM Real Estate | 9 Harcourts Huon Valley |
| 10 PLATO'S Wonder • Create • Discover | 11 Raine & Horne HOBART | 12 PMM Real Estate |
| 13 Edwards Windsor | 14 SKRETTING a Nutreco company | 15 PMM Real Estate |
| 16 PMM Real Estate | 17 BULK NUTRIENTS PURE SUPPLEMENTS | 18 PMM Real Estate |
| 19 simmons WOLFHAGEN Lawyers | 20 BOQ | 21 MY RIDE |

Overall Event Sponsors:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Andrew Wilkie MP
Federal Member for Clark | Cassy O'Connor
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| | | Rob Valentine MLC
Independent Member for Hobart |

Raffle Sponsors:



Ten Lives CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING APPEAL

It's that time of the year again and our fluffy friends need your help this Christmas.

Last year your donations made a world of difference to our kitties, which is why we're calling on your generous support once again. Can you help give the gift of health and hope to our cats and kittens this year?



DONATE NOW

Kitten season is upon us, and our resources will be pushed to the limit this summer. Please help a kitty in desperate need. Your donation will help us to find loving forever homes so that they can share in the good tidings this and every Christmas.

Ten Lives is a self-funded not for profit cat welfare organisation. We do not receive any ongoing government funding, and we rely on funds generated from our own operations and the support of the general community.

Visit tenlives.com.au/donate to find out all the ways you can help make a difference.

Thank you for caring about our precious kitties this Christmas. Best wishes to you and your family this festive season, from all the kitties and hoomins at Ten Lives.

2021 FUNDRAISING CALENDAR



All funds raised from the purchase of this calendar go directly to supporting Ten Lives, which means your purchase has helped a kitty in need. Thank you for supporting your local animal charity!

\$15

AVAILABLE NOW!

For a full list of stockists or to purchase a copy online visit tenlives.com.au/2021



Cats & Christmas

ARTICLE BY: Dr Katrina Ward, Animal Behavioural Consultant / katrinaward.com.au

There are many reasons for cats to get stressed around Christmas time.

Make sure you and your family are aware of the risks to your cat, so everyone can have a safe and happy Christmas!

Cats love predictability in their environment.

This can quickly be destabilised around Christmas with holidays meaning there may be more people around the house during the day and potentially less around at night with all those social events on the calendar.

Routines may be disrupted, there may be strangers in the house and there may be the introduction of new objects (Christmas trees, presents, new furniture etc.) which could either give your cat a great thrill (some do like the buzz of a bit of healthy stress and change) but others might find it all a bit overwhelming... or even downright horrible.

It is important that you are able to recognise the signs of stress so that you can jump in and help your cat if needed.

Signs of acute stress include:

- Urination, defecation, diarrhoea
- Vocalising or hissing
- Hiding
- Dilated pupils, wide eyes
- Urine spraying (males and females, even if desexed)
- Trembling
- Rapid breathing
- Flattened ears
- Tucked tail, or close to body
- Profound salivation
- Displacement activities (normal behaviours seen in an abnormal context, such as grooming the moment a new item of furniture is brought into the room)
- Aggression.

If your cat is really feeling unable to cope for a long period of time there will be behavioural changes as well as physiological changes. Chronic stress is not a good state to be in as it can also lead to medical conditions due to malfunction of the immune system.

Signs of chronic stress include:

- Apathy (no longer seeking pleasure-inducing behaviour such as playing, exploration)
- Eating – increase or decrease
- Grooming – increase or decrease
- Hiding, withdrawing
- Vomiting or diarrhoea
- Increased susceptibility to infections, viruses
- Feline Idiopathic Cystitis (causing increased need to urinate, pain on urination, blood in the urine and sometimes blockage)
- Pancreatitis
- Repetitive or stereotypic behaviours (such as hair pulling, overgrooming)
- Marking (urine spraying)
- Aggression.

Christmas time also presents physical dangers to cats.

Tinsel is highly attractive to cats given the sparkle and wiggling action but it does have the potential to strangle or choke the inquisitive cat.

In fact, the whole Christmas tree is a giant play gym covered in attractive baubles. Climbing it runs the risk of causing it to topple over, plus cats easily get caught in all the cords and lights.

Electric cords supplying the Xmas tree run the risk of being chewed and giving electric shock.

If your cat is particularly inquisitive or food-driven, be careful they cannot access gifts which might be harmful (for example, eating treats with xylitol,

grapes/raisins, or chocolates).

Even your attempts to decorate your home with flowers such as the Christmas Lily ought to be done judiciously. The pollen from Asiatic lilies is poisonous to cats and can cause kidney failure.

Visiting dogs and children can be very fear-inducing for cats that have not been socialised to them and your cat could become aggressive towards them.

Measures to take to improve the wellbeing of your cat:

Continue **predictability and routine** (as far as your cat is concerned... e.g. feeding time, playing, smooching etc.).

Make sure **access to vital areas** is ensured despite your hospitality demands e.g. ensure your cat has free and easy access to the litter tray, food bowl, an established sleeping area, play area and scratching area.

Ensure your cat can **escape safely** when it feels overwhelmed – they love to hide in boxes, perch up high etc.

If you are worried your cat might be the type to tackle the Christmas tree, then **prevent access!** Do not punish your cat for investigating things that it finds irresistible. Play pens, child gates etc. are simple ways to reduce access – but make sure your cat can't fit through or jump over.

Don't forget to give your cat some **play time**. They will appreciate the individual attention.

Be **patient and gentle**, do not force your cat to interact with things or people it is afraid of.

Avoid using punishment if your cat does show aggression or urinates outside of the litter tray. Punishment usually escalates aggressive behaviour. So if this is a problem, just usher the cat to a safe place to cool down.



All parts of the lily are poisonous to cats.

Punishment also fails to teach the cat what you want it to do, can ruin your relationship with your cat and can unfortunately escalate out of frustration.

If you are worried about your cat it is also appropriate to **seek veterinary advice** to rule out medical conditions. You might also need to talk about other options to help reduce stress, such as Feliway (a synthetic copy of the pheromone which cats secrete when they rub their cheeks on furniture etc.), Zylkene (a food supplement which contains a calming protein from milk), or anxiolytic medication.

The best plan is to plan ahead and remember to keep your cat's needs in mind before the silly season sets in!

I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.



Vikki's Milestone Kitten

Helping just one kitty in need is special, helping 500 is spectacular!

Vikki loves to help, she used to work as a nurse before some personal health issues led her to early retirement. Then one day her son found six little kittens who had lost their Mum and bought them home for Vikki to care for. She was having trouble sleeping anyway, so having to feed the tiny tots every hour and a half gave Vikki something to do, and the love she got back was the spark she needed in her life!

That was in 2016 and Vikki's life has changed so much for the better. She recently passed the milestone of fostering her 500th cat, a little ginger girl named Azahar (Spanish for "orange blossom").

"They all have fantastic personalities." Vikki says, "I'd never been a cat person, but I have two foster fails - Cuddles and Sugar - and I couldn't

imagine life without them!" Her commitment to Ten Lives continues to this day where she is now involved in the Edu.Cat program, taking her foster kittens into schools to meet the children.

"500 is a huge number, and it's just amazing that Vikki has had the dedication to open her home to that many foster cats and kittens in need." Ten Lives Foster Care Coordinator Georgie Gallagher remarked on Vikki's achievement, adding "She is unflappable! She can take anything and work her magic and we can have the confidence that she will go above and beyond and provide all the care that the cat or kitten needs".

Vikki takes great pleasure from seeing the looks on her grandchildren's faces as they play with the cats and she's a member of an active social group with other foster carers who occasionally meet at Cornelian Bay. As she says now: "Life's good, and the animals are my children!"

"Vikki is so experienced with all the cats and kittens she's

The beautiful Azahar was foster #500!
PHOTO: Joel Diprose



been caring for. She's really developed such a knowledge of neonatal skills which she has been generous enough to teach to our other foster carers, staff and volunteers." Georgie says, "People like Vikki are important to Ten Lives because they are a rock we can depend on when we're under pressure. They have opened their home and their hearts to the sick and needy and provide the love and support that they need."

"Give it a go!" Vikki says, "Even if you only ever do it the once, it's an experience you'll never forget!"

Find out more about becoming a foster carer at tenlives.com.au

EDU.CAT

ENROL YOUR SCHOOL FOR 2021 CLASSES NOW!
TENLIVES.COM.AU/EDUCATE



BOWEN ROAD PRIMARY

Jayne Higgs Kinder/Prep Class
Activity Book Pages

Activity 2:
Draw a picture of a happy cat
Include in your picture some of a cat's
needs and wants from Activity 1.
(ACSSU002)



Activity 2:
Draw a picture of a happy cat
Include in your picture some of a cat's
needs and wants from Activity 1.
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Activity 2:
Draw a picture of a happy cat
Include in your picture some of a cat's
needs and wants from Activity 1.
(ACSSU002)



"The students enjoyed doing the
activities and I felt that they were
appropriate for the age group."

List 3 reasons why keeping a pet cat contained is important.

1. So it don't run away.
2. So it doesn't get hit by a car
3. So it doesn't attack old people.

List 3 reasons why keeping a pet cat contained is important.

1. because if they aren't sexed most people cat look after cat better the others so they go into love can have one or two cats
2. live life
3. more chips are available

List 3 reasons why keeping a pet cat contained is important.

1. they will escape and fight other animals and come home sick or with a broken bone.
2. so they might go and breed with other cats and make babies.
3. they might kill other wildlife like birds.

List 3 reasons why keeping a pet cat contained is important.

1. So it don't get hurt doesn't
2. So it don't run away doesn't
3. So you can save money so they don't die

The 1, 2, 3... of Edu.Cat



2. Optional - Pre-assessments
emailed to you 7-10 days prior
to the Incursion



3. Incursion - Engaging and
interactive curriculum linked
incursions run by Edu.Cat
facilitators. Edu.Cat STEM
Teacher Guides, student
workbooks and certificates
provide to classroom teachers



4. STEM Challenge -
Post Incursion,
students complete the
curriculum linked
workbook activities
and STEM Challenge
with their classroom
teacher



5. Optional - Free Tour
Book a behind the scenes
tour of Ten Lives

1. Book an Edu.Cat Incursion

edu.cat@tenlives.com.au
Ph: 6278 2111



6. Rebook Edu.Cat for
the following year

Scott Czerkiewicz Grade 3C
The Importance of Keeping Cats Contained



MAIN PHOTO: Dr Tess Vitesnik at one of the camera trap sites, downloading the photos to help establish cat and wildlife population in the area.
INSET: A photo taken from one of the camera traps.



Richmond Cat Management Community Project

ARTICLE BY: Dr Tess Vitesnik, Ten Lives.

The hallways at Ten Lives have been abuzz with talk of ‘the Richmond Project’ over the last three or four months. When things get quiet over winter, as the number of kittens coming into the shelter reduces seasonally to zero, we have some time to consider the bigger picture. Why, after over 70 years of accepting all cats that come to us, are there still homeless and unwanted cats in the community? Is there something proactive we can do in the community to address the issue? The Richmond Cat Management Community Project is a trial program to attempt to answer these questions.

What are we trying to achieve?

We are aiming to move beyond the shelter to help manage cats in the community. We hope to improve the welfare of cats in

the community, protect native wildlife, and decrease the intake of unwanted animals into the shelter.

This holistic project encompasses community and stakeholder engagement, surveys to gauge opinion and the extent of the issue, camera surveys, education in the community and in the schools with Edu.Cat, adoption of cats and kittens into new forever homes, community stray cats, trapping, microchipping and desexing. We hope that with all parties working together we can achieve long term and sustainable improvements.

Why Richmond?

After mapping of our shelter intake there were several easily identifiable ‘hotspot’ areas.

These are areas from which we have many unwanted animals coming to us; usually strays and sometimes in poor condition. Richmond was clearly a hotspot for unwanted cats and is also an area where we were fairly certain to garner a good level of community support.

What have we done so far?

The Bruny Island Cat Management Project, discussed in the last issue of the Scratching Post, provided us with a useful framework for the project. We knew that in order to have a lasting impact we would need to engage with the community from the outset. We spent time talking to community members to establish what the problem is and discussing where cats are located and why. An online survey was sent out and we

received over 70 constructive responses. Overwhelmingly, the community has expressed that, yes, there is a cat (and people) problem and yes, something should be done about it. From here, we were able to better identify the food sources maintaining the cat population. Cats will predate native and non-native wildlife and scavenge amongst refuse. Richmond is a very tidy town, there is not much in the way of litter and most bins are well designed to keep scavenging animals out. However, Richmond has a large amount of food that is being provided to unowned or 'loosely owned' cats daily. Many of these cats are not desexed and like any well-fed population reproduce readily. Unfortunately, not only do these cats cause annoyance and impact on native wildlife, they often have poor health and a poor quality of life overall. In order to better define the cat population, we used infrared cameras at key sites around Richmond. Sites were selected based on community consultation and to have a good cross section of town, suburban fringe and farm locations. This will be useful in monitoring changes to the cat numbers over time as we can do follow up camera work after the community has implemented change. Stay tuned for more cat and wildlife images from the camera traps in the next issue. Many thanks to Matt Pauza from Biosecurity Tasmania, DPIPWE for help with cameras and placement.

Where to from here?

- **Microchipping day:** microchips are the most reliable form of pet identification. A chipped cat can be returned to its owner if it is brought into a shelter or a vet clinic. If trapping of cats is going on in

an area, then having your pet microchipped can give you peace of mind. Microchipping days will form part of the project. Contact us to register your interest.

- **Trapping/desexing:** kitten season has started with litters appearing around the place. These kittens are on track to either perish or become unsocialised and form the next generation of stray and feral cats. Trapping kittens along with their parents and desexing them is a priority over the coming months.
- **Cat feeders:** if you are feeding a cat then taking responsibility for their desexing, microchipping and health is essential. If this does not occur, then a major contribution is made to the stray cat population. We are trying our best to work with people who are regularly feeding stray cats.
- **Signage discouraging the dumping of cats:** we have identified some common areas where people dump cats, which then fend for themselves and often become stray or feral. We would like to work with the local council to provide signage encouraging people to bring cats to the shelter to be cared for.
- **Containment for pet cats:** desexing and microchipping is essential for pet cats but without containment our pets can still predate on and compete with native wildlife species. We would like to support people considering making the transition to full time containment for their cats.
- **School groups:** both primary schools in Richmond have signed up for the Ten Lives



ABOVE: Ten Lives has engaged with local community members to establish what the problem is, where cats are located and why.

Edu.Cat program. The next generation of kids will learn about responsible cat ownership as part of their school curriculum.

- **Landcare project:** next year we will tie in with a Landcare project that will focus on stray and feral cats on larger landholdings in the wider Coal River Valley region. Ten Lives are aiming to help by reducing the domestic, stray, and dumped cats contributing to the wider issue of cats in the bush and on farms.

Please contact us if you would like further information or to be involved in our 'Richmond Project'. We hope to be successful in this trial in order to move the program into other areas.

Helga & Her Kittens

ARTICLE BY: Jed Dolwin, Ten Lives.

“Kitten Season” doesn’t happen by accident; the warmer, spring-weather tells cats that it’s breeding season, and the resulting wave of kittens from undesexed cats often causes many problems and heartache.

The first litter of kittens brought into Ten Lives at the start of our 2020 kitten season belonged to Helga. Helga is a lovely cat who had a very big day on 1st September 2020. She was found locked in a cat carrier, abandoned behind a business in Glenorchy, covered in faeces and very heavily pregnant. Thankfully she was quickly brought in to Ten Lives where she started delivering her kittens, even as she was being surrendered.

Unfortunately two of the babies didn’t make it, but she was left

with four healthy little ones, and she was a perfect mum tending to her newborns.

At just two days old, the new family were put into foster care, where they eventually ended up with foster carer Caeley Fenney. Caeley did a great job, using a tent in her lounge to provide a safe, secure place for Helga to raise her kittens. “It was fantastic, but tense as you’re anxious for them. Helga was a great mother though, which made it quite easy” said Caeley. Helga raised and trained them in the essentials of life, like grooming and using a litter tray, but all too soon the kittens were mature enough for adoption and Caeley was called to return them to the Centre to find their forever homes – which the cute little kittens did very quickly!



Helga and her babies shortly after birth.

Kittens are desexed once they reach the safe and appropriate stage, generally after 10 weeks old and at least 1kg in weight. With a gestation period of 2 months, a single cat can birth up to 5 litters a year, and kittens can have kittens when they are as young as 4 months old.

On 1st December, exactly 3 months after she was found, Helga was also adopted! At just over 2 years old, she’s a lovely, playful cat, despite her stressful ordeal. She is ready to enjoy the next chapter of her life without having to worry about any more litters of kittens, which she is probably very relieved about!



Happy Helga waiting for her forever family.

PHOTO: Rachael Daniels/rachaeldphotography.com



Helga’s healthy kittens a few months later, back from foster care, desexed and ready for adoption.

Ten Lives doesn’t judge the circumstances under which cats are brought in to us.

We are here for the welfare of cats and kittens, and accept all stray, unwanted and abandoned cats. Helga’s story could have gone a very sad and different way had she not been found and brought in when she was. We encourage anyone who is no longer able or willing to care for their cat or kittens, to instead bring them in to Ten Lives. We accept surrenders Monday to Friday, 10am to 2pm by appointment – please call us on 6278 2111 to get some advice or arrange to bring your cat in.

You can also read our helpful Fact Sheets for dealing with cat issues at home: tenlives.com.au/help



Andrew Wilkie MP with Ten Lives Supervisor Alisha Tams, discussing some very small kittens and a very big washing machine.

Washing Wish Come True

Celebrating the arrival of our new industrial-size washing machine!

ARTICLE BY: Freya Langford-Sidebottom, Ten Lives.

While Ten Lives has always been incredibly grateful for donations of items for the running of the Centre, such as second-hand washing machines, the conditions that we run them have always been less than ideal. The scope of washing per day generated in the Centre is incredibly high, and we had previously been running two to three domestic washing machines that would have load after load all day long. They were very noisy and constantly breaking down due to the bulky loads involved. We have long had our eye on something much better...

Andrew Wilkie MP, Federal Member for Clark, recently assisted Ten Lives in successfully applying for a Stronger Communities Grant for \$10,000. We put this much needed money towards an industrial washing machine that can, amazingly, cope with the entire Centre's daily washing in just one load!

This purchase will be a huge help for us in many ways, including: reducing the amount of work and time it takes our staff and volunteers to do a load of washing; eliminating scary, loud banging that the many regular washing machines used to emit on a daily basis (which was less than ideal for nearby cats); saving money for the Centre by washing to a hospital-grade sanitisation standard using only cold water; and, is friendlier for the environment overall by injecting EnviroSaver Ozone into the wash.

EnviroSaver is an ozone washing technology designed and manufactured in Victoria, Australia. Use of EnviroSaver produces the following positive outcomes:

- Saves up to 49% water and drainage costs
- Saves up to 84% electricity
- Reduces the carbon footprint of the laundry by up to 70%
- Failsafe System ensures disinfection before proceeding
- The only method to kill MRSA and staph bacteria other than using high temperature.

Needless to say we are thrilled with our purchase, thank you MP Wilkie for your help – now we just need to save up for the matching dryer! [Donate now at tenlives.com.au](https://tenlives.com.au)



Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt showing MP Wilkie the finer points of running the new washing machine.

Tips & Tricks for Harness Training Your Cat

ARTICLE BY: Jen Pelham, Ten Lives.



If your contained cat longs for the great outdoors, these harness training tips may be just what you need for a more content kitty!

Harness training can be an enriching experience for your cat. It can provide indoor cats with the opportunity to use their senses and stimulate their minds. However, it's important to realise that it's not for all cats. Just as some people are excited to snorkel, other people are terrified of the idea and would rather stay home... this is the same for cats and harness training.

Is harness training right for your cat?

Many cats are content to watch the neighbourhood from the comfort of a window, without the desire to explore outside. These cats normally avoid being near the front door and do not vocalise to get outside.

If your cat dashes for the door every time its opened, vocalises to go outside and or playtime does not seem to satisfy them entirely, then harness training might be a positive experience for your cat.

Steps to harness training:

Just as you wouldn't stick a snorkel on your friend and dump them in the middle of the ocean for their first time, harness training your cat needs to be done slowly and with patience.

Getting your cat comfortable with the harness on its body.

This step is important and can take time. Start by placing the harness on the ground and allowing your cat to sniff it. Reward your cat with their favourite treat when they interact with the harness. Do this daily for short periods of time.

Over time we want your cat to be familiar with the harness and associate it with a positive reward. Then you can begin to place the harness on your cat. In the beginning your cat might be uncomfortable or panic as you touch its legs or attempt to place

the harness around its body. If so, simply stop putting it on and place the harness on the ground, and allow your cat to sniff it (or in some cases run away from it). If your cat returns to the harness to sniff/investigate it - reward them with a treat.

If your cat allows the harness to be put on - reward them with a treat and let them get used to the feeling of walking around the house with it on. In the early stages keep these sessions short, as you want to end on a positive note and not overwhelm them.

Progress gradually to longer and longer sessions, remembering to reward them. When your cat can walk around the house with the harness on comfortably (as if they didn't have a harness on at all), then you can begin attaching the leash. As you did before, attach the leash for short periods and reward with a treat. Hold the leash loosely and follow your cat to where it wants to walk around the house. Do not pull or try to control the cat's movements (unless for its own safety).

Ease them into each step slowly and keep up positive associations

(head rubs and treats) to make this a positive experience. When your cat is relaxed walking around the house (with the leash attached and you following them), then you can proceed to going outside.

Walking a cat is very different to walking a dog.

Be prepared for a slow walk, that involves stopping to 'smell the roses' and watch birds rather than a long walk/jog that you would do with a dog. Harness walking with a cat involves following your cat and letting them decide what's interesting.

Only make gentle corrections with the leash to discourage them away from small areas you can't follow, or up trees. It's a good idea to have treats handy and a cat wand toy to redirect their attention as needed.

Make your walks ritualized.

Setting a regular time for walks will help to prevent your cat from running to the door every time you do. You can also ritualise the location in which you place the

harness on - such as a bedroom or other room that is located away from the front door. Leaving for harness walks through the back door may also help prevent your cat from thinking its time for a walk every time you open it. Use a regular phrase like 'walkies' and jiggle the leash as a signal that it's time for a walk. If your cat doesn't want to go for a walk some days - that's ok, your cat has made a choice.

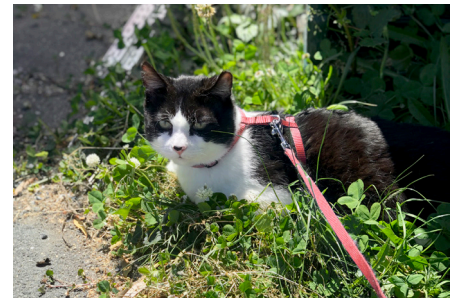
Safety when harness walking.

To begin with start in your own yard and avoid walking too far from your house in case your cat decides it has had enough. Be mindful of things that may scare your cat such as barking dogs, construction works/loud noises, and busy streets. Harness walking your cat should be fun and stimulating for your cat, they will be happy to explore near your house without needing to walk for kilometres.

Make sure the harness is fitted correctly, you should only be able to fit **two fingers underneath**. If it's too loose they may slip out of it.

Treats

Whilst providing food rewards is beneficial for training, keep your cats daily allowance in mind to avoid overfeeding your cat. Cats who are less food motivated may be rewarded by head rubs or other interaction from you that they value highly.



Some cats adopted from Ten Lives receive harness training while at the Centre. Daffy (Top) and Levi (Bottom) both showed aptitude for harness training and were encouraged in the practice.

SHOP TEN LIVES RETAIL

Catit Adjustable Harness (Leash Available Separately)



- Snag proof
- Custom fit
- Quick release snap

\$11⁹⁹ S/P

\$12⁹⁹ M

\$13⁹⁹ L/G

Catit Adjustable Harness and Leash Set



- Snag proof
- Custom fit
- Available in a range of colours

\$21⁰⁰ S/P

\$22⁵⁰ M

\$26⁰⁰ L/G

100% of funds raised from our shop stay right here at Ten Lives so your purchase helps a kitty in need!

An Interview with Volunteer Andrij



Andrij in the wash bay helping to clean one of the many litter trays used at the Centre.

“What impressed me the most was the sense of community and caring for the staff at the Centre, particularly during this COVID period.”

- Andrij Stachurski

Andrij Stachurski is just one of the fantastic team of Animal Attendant Volunteers here at Ten Lives. When not helping care for the kitties, he spends his week working in IT - being fortunate enough to have an accommodating employer who allowed him to negotiate keeping his weekly shift at Ten Lives after starting full-time work this year. A self-professed ‘digital nomad’, Andrij can be found doing consulting work whenever he can find wifi and good coffee! At Ten Lives, he can be found helping out in various ways, not least of which being enjoying the benefits of the fluffy friends that the Centre has to offer.

How long have you been volunteering with Ten Lives?

This November is the one year anniversary since I began volunteering at Ten Lives. I was welcomed on my first day by Jon and Olivia as part of induction training, where I was given a tour, introduced to the friendly staff, and gained the basic knowledge required for my role.

Why did you decide to volunteer with Ten Lives?

I had recently moved to Hobart and was looking for a way to become involved in the community and make new friends. I am a crazy cat person, so having the opportunity to scratch drooling, purring critters each week is a huge bonus.

What do you do in a typical day of volunteering here?

As an 'Animal Care Assistant' my job, as part of the team, is to make sure everything is tidy and in order for the operation of the centre. An afternoon shift would generally involve:

- 🐾 making sure the boarders and adoptees are comfortable, including having a chat and room service,
- 🐾 keeping supplies stocked and things tidy in the various wings on the centre,
- 🐾 hosing down and polishing litter trays.

Recently I've been involved with Joel and Freya in the Creative Department lending some of my IT skills towards enhancing the Ten Lives website.

What surprised you about volunteering with Ten Lives?

The role, team, and Centre surpassed my expectations. What impressed me the most was the sense of community and caring for the staff at the Centre, particularly during this COVID period, lead by Noel — a great manager.

You adopted your cat from Ten Lives recently, tell us about him and that process and how has he settled in with you?

The amazing team (shoutout to Alisha) brought me in to meet a handsome, well behaved rascal (similar to my characteristics), who mysteriously made his way down from Queensland before making an appearance at the Centre. His name is Shepherd and I speak with him in Ukrainian.

Despite all his adventures, he is content to quietly sit on the window sill as an indoor cat, rush to the door for belly rubs when I get home, and give an affectionate head-butt. He has kept me sane during COVID.

Where do you see yourself five years from now?

Sailing a yacht or teaching, or both! I get a lot of enjoyment and satisfaction from teaching — in the past in Australia and Ukraine in voluntary capacities. This year I participated in a summer school program giving lessons to over 600 Ukrainian school children at once via Zoom.

I also love being out on the ocean and some of my greatest adventures have been whilst sailing. This includes traversing the Whitsundays in the peak of summer and not being able to swim due to it being a deadly Irukandji season.

What's your favourite holiday destination?

I love to travel and explore rather than holiday. Some of my favourite places would be Da Nang in Vietnam, Olomouc in the Czech Republic, and Kyiv in Ukraine.

If you could meet anyone alive or dead who would it be?

I think a simple answer would be an ancestor of mine! It would be just as interesting for them as it would be for me.

Finally, what advice would you give to volunteers just starting out at Ten Lives?

Lucky you! Enjoy it.



Andrij recently adopted Shepherd from Ten Lives and is teaching him Ukrainian.

With nearly 500 people offering their valuable time to us, Ten Lives really is a volunteer-driven organisation. It's a diverse group and range of talents – including artists, musicians, nurses, engineers, retirees and students – who come from all corners of the world. They volunteer right across the organisation in many roles either directly at the Centre, at one of our Op Shops, or in a foster care role.

We are so fortunate to enjoy this support from such an outstanding group of people. They really are the life-blood of Ten Lives!

Do you want to be a part of something truly amazing?

Visit our website for the full range of available positions.

tenlives.com.au/volunteer

APPLY NOW

"Our volunteers help out for lots of different reasons - but one thing we all have in common is being crazy cat people. In his other life, Andrij is a very talented web designer. He wanted to take Wednesday afternoons to come and spend some time at the Centre doing something unrelated to his day job. We love having Dre in our team as an Animal Care Attendant - and the kitties love him too!"

- Jonathan Harvey, Ten Lives Volunteer Coordinator

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



FRANKIE

"Frankie stood out to me straight away, he had kind, welcoming eyes and warmed to me almost immediately. I knew he was the one for our family and settled right in! Will nap anywhere, as long as it's warm and sunny!"

- Rachel, Frankie's Hoomin. Adopted 2017



GULLIVER



MARNI

Me and my friend Kayla decided to visit - ONLY to look. After making it very clear to Kayla that I wasn't getting a cat, we walked into Ten Lives and straight away Marni (originally Amarni) stood up and looked at me. I looked at him, I looked at Kayla, I picked him up Kayla took a photo of us and before I could blink she had gone out to the lady to tell her I was adopting Marni. From that moment onwards I had no second thoughts, I took home my best friend!

- Caitlin, Marni's Hoomin. Adopted Sep 2018



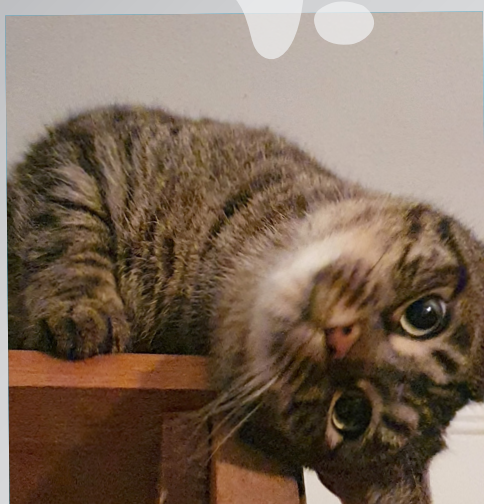
LILLY
(FORMERLY, HAILEE)

After 2 years of pestering my family for a second fur baby for a sister for my first, finally I was allowed. Specifically I was looking for a black fur baby because at that time at Ten Lives there was increased number of black kittens. The moment I entered Lilly's section she leaped down and walked directly to me for snuggles and immediately I fell in love. The moment Lilly entered her new home she decided she was queen and we were her adoring fans. She has brought her new fur sister out of her timid shell and Lilly barely leaves anyone's side, even when they're in the shower.

- Hannah, Lilly's Hoomin. Adopted Feb 2020

"After losing our cat, we decided to adopt again and we came to the Cat Centre to see who was there. We were immediately drawn to Gully's chilled personality and how relaxed he was with the kids. Gully settled in immediately and wasn't fazed by our other animals at all (goats, sheep, cows). He is extremely tolerant and allowed the kids to put him in all sorts of positions and situations. His motto is "if all else fails, sleep on the spot!"

- Diane, Gully's Hoomin. Adopted Jan 2011



GIZ
(GIZMO)

"I had cats as a child. My cousin fosters cats for Ten Lives and after hearing from her about how well you look after your cats I decided to visit ... and one day I met Giz! Giz arrived and almost immediately was a really cute attention seeker, after some time his playful side came out ... he continues to make me smile, gently orchestrate attention and play time and bring a smile to my face with his purring."

- Ruth, Gizmo's Hoomin. Adopted Sep 2018

"We were very sad after our beautiful pixie cat became unwell and had to be euthanised. We really missed her and our other cat Dara missed her friend too. Millie was very quiet and scared at first as we believe she was a stray. She less settled in so well and is such a beautiful girl. She's very affectionate and so playful and has a favourite toy which is a snake on a string. She carries it around and makes such a loud meowing sound. It's hilarious -she's so proud of herself. She loves sleeping at the bottom of the bed with our 9year old son."

- Andrea, Millie's Hoomin. Adopted Oct 2019



MILLIE



MIA

My Husband and I adopted Mia when she was 9 months old. When we saw Mia it was love at first sight, she put her paws up on my chest and kissed the side of my face... I feel she chose us and we were able to give her a second chance at happiness! She is so loved and adored. Mia settled in almost immediately and was not scared off by our 2 small dogs. The joy she brings to our home is priceless.

- Bri, Mia's Hoomin. Adopted Aug 2019

Are You Part of It?

How has YOUR Ten Lives kitty settled into their forever home? We'd love an update!

Jump online and send us your cute cat photos and stories at:

tenlives.com.au/media-upload

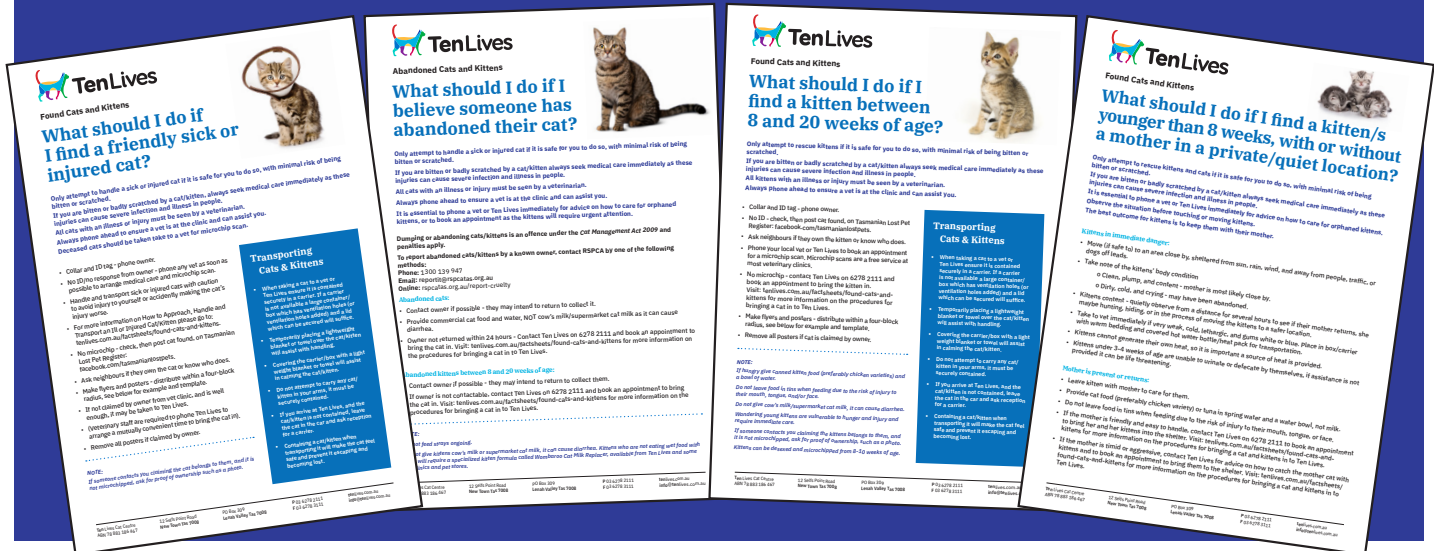
Simply select the 'Scratching Post' option under the media field.



Do you know what to do If you find a cat or kitten?

Kitten season is upon us! Did you know that Ten Lives has some great resources available? Our Fact Sheets are designed to assist you should you come across stray, sick or injured cats or kittens and will help you work out which appropriate steps to take next, as well as the process for bringing in a stray cat to Ten Lives.

Visit: tenlives.com.au/found



Before bringing a cat or kitten to Ten Lives please call us first on 6278 2111.

Bringing a cat or kitten to Ten Lives is strictly by appointment only, 10:00am to 2:00pm Monday to Friday.

General Terms for bringing in a stray cat or kitten to Ten Lives

- Surrender hours 10:00am to 2:00pm Monday to Friday, strictly by appointment only.
- Any stray cats brought in outside operational hours will be charged \$95 per cat payable at the time of bringing in the cat and will not be waived. This is due to the additional costs for Ten Lives.

Why can't I just bring in a cat or kitten at any time?

- Safety of our Staff, Volunteers, and members of the community is our priority.
- The wellbeing and humane treatment of cats is our priority.
- Effective cat management at Ten Lives requires scheduling many people, due to the large number of cats with many different needs. Surrendering outside of hours may impact our ability to effectively

care for the cats, including the one being surrendered.

- Our welfare centre is closed outside of the surrender hours. We are still open to the public for adoptions and for phone enquiries during our usual business hours.
- We do not receive any funding to provide this service to the community. As a self-funded animal charity, we do not have the resources to pay trained staff to process surrendered cats outside of these hours.

Did you know: We are self-funded, relying on community donations and fundraising events to keep our shelter running. It costs Ten Lives on average \$600 to care for each cat in our care.

PLEASE NOTE: The more we know about the cat the more likely we can find it a suitable home, so we appreciate any observations you have made about the cat.

Do you need help With your own cat at home?

Ten Lives also has Fact Sheets designed to help you with a wide range of problem solving issues for your cat or kitten, as well as the process for surrendering your own cat or kitten to Ten Lives. Visit: tenlives.com.au/help

Common reasons people consider surrendering cats and kittens to Ten Lives:

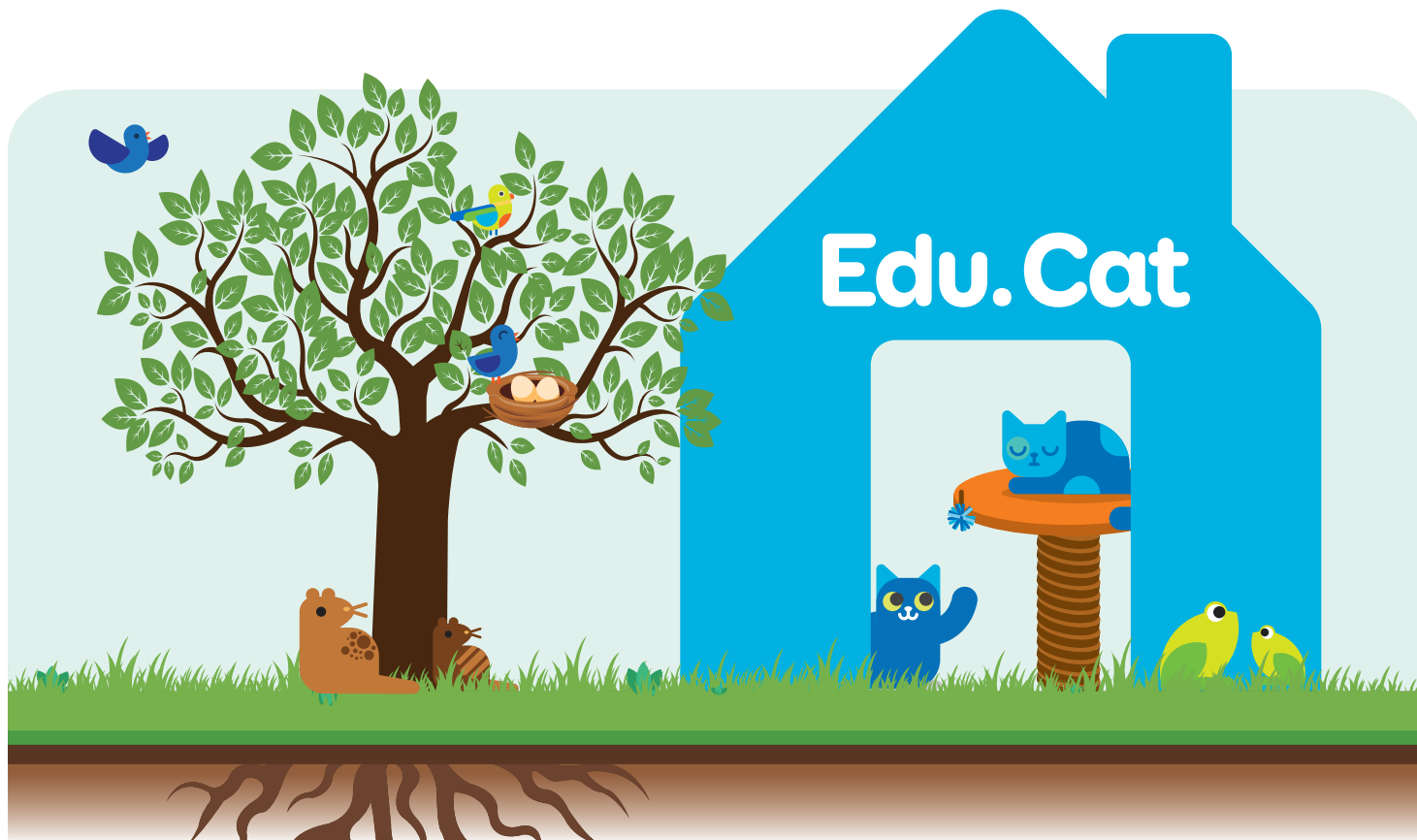
- Behaviour
- Unwanted Litters
- Too Many Cats
- Expecting a Baby
- Financial
- Housing
- Ill Health
- Domestic or disaster situations

Please refer to our Problem Solving Fact Sheets for information to assist you in either being able to keep your cat, rehome your cat yourself, or surrender your cat to Ten Lives.

If, after following our recommendations, you are still unsure about the need to surrender your cat to Ten Lives, please phone 6278 2111 to discuss your situation and to make an appointment for either a phone consultation or a surrender appointment.

Visit: tenlives.com.au/surrender for our Ten Lives Surrender Policy and all the specifics you need to be aware of for bringing in your own cat or kitten to Ten Lives.





Inspiring students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



Promoting responsible cat ownership to create lasting social change in how people care for cats and protect wildlife. It all begins with education!

BOOK NOW!

edu.cat@tenlives.com.au

The 1, 2, 3... of Edu.Cat



2. Optional - Pre-assessments emailed to you 7-10 days prior to the incursion



3. Incursion - Engaging and interactive curriculum linked incursions run by Edu.Cat facilitators. Edu.Cat STEM Teacher Guides, student workbooks and certificates provide to classroom teachers



4. STEM Challenge - Post Incursion, students complete the curriculum linked workbook activities and STEM Challenge with their classroom teacher



5. Optional - Free Tour Book a behind the scenes tour of Ten Lives



6. Rebook Edu.Cat for the following year

1. Book an Edu.Cat Incursion

edu.cat@tenlives.com.au
Ph: 6278 2111