

# scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Winter 2021

## “We’re here for the cats.”

The Passionate  
People of Ten Lives

**Vet Nurse Training:**  
Beginning a Rewarding Career

**Fiona’s Facebook Friends:**  
Social Media Funds Vital Surgery

**Lelu is a Survivor:**  
Orphaned Neonatal Kitten  
Overcomes the Odds



ALSO: ADOPTION UPDATES ∴ CORPORATE GIVING ∴ RICHMOND PROJECT

*We’re building them a brighter future...*

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?



## Cover

**Model:** Jeremia

**Photographer:** Rachael Daniels

Jeremia came into the care of Ten Lives as a stray on the 9th of February 2020 when he was approximately four weeks old. He was brought in with his orphaned siblings; Jolie, Juno and Jazz. All four were suffering poor body condition and were placed into foster care to gain weight and be big enough to be desexed and adopted. They became available for adoption on the 8th of April and Jeremia was adopted four days later.



*Jeremia's intake photo*

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



*Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt recognising Tammy Eastley's 35 years' of service at the Cat Centre during her celebratory morning tea.*

## President's Preview

Welcome to the Winter 2021 edition of the Scratching Post. I would like to start out by congratulating Tammy Eastley who recently celebrated 35 years at the Cat Centre. What an amazing achievement this is with so many dedicated years of service.

After having read this issue of the Scratching Post, I feel so very proud of all the passionate people who make Ten Lives the organisation that it is today. All of our volunteer team, whether it be animal attendants at the Centre, the retail and sorting teams at our Op Shops, the education team delivering Edu.Cat to schools, the trainee nurses in the vet room or our creative team flooding social media with cute kitty photos, the core reason they all do what they do so well is their dedication to animal welfare and the cats who come to us in need.

I hope you enjoy this issue and finding out more about the people behind the pussycats!

- David Rees, President

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# We're building them a brighter future...



*Genevieve Lilley of Genevieve Lilley Architects has been working on the building project since 2017*

## Ten Lives Building Project: The story so far...

**The Board of Ten Lives has been committed to operating a world class Cat Management Facility since developing it's strategic plan in 2015. The subsequent plan in 2018 reaffirmed that commitment.**

In 2017 architect Genevieve Lilley was appointed with a tough brief. We need a fit for purpose facility that would meet the needs of our cats, our people, and our community for the next couple of decades AND we

needed to make the best use of existing buildings and ensure we could meet a very strict budget. We also needed to build in stages as we raised funds and gained support from the community. Ten Lives received planning approval for the project in April 2020.

Local personality, Dave Noonan, came on board as a Ten Lives' Ambassador and quickly started garnering support from the building industry. Dave garnered support from Josh Muskett and Craig Swan from the innovative local building company, Podmatrix. Podmatrix's work can be seen at Pump House

Point and many other places throughout Tasmania. Their innovative approach of building quality pods offsite and then transporting and craning them into place, was a perfect solution for Ten Lives and our cats. This approach avoids months of noisy and disruptive onsite works that would be very stressful for our cats, particularly for those in our hospital wing.

Craig and Josh visited Ten Lives with Dave, and soon recognised the huge role Ten Lives plays in the community for the benefit and welfare of cats, the environment, and the community. Craig said that he and Josh were very happy to support a self

**Building  
Project  
Partners:**



# Can they **COUNT ON** your support?



*Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt with Craig Swan and Josh Musket from Poxmatrix on site at the Cat Centre.*

funded charity like Ten Lives because of the vital community service it provided. That's why Craig and Josh have committed to an in-kind donation to the project of nearly \$100,000! This was major step forward.

Could this project now really happen?!

Dave's approaches to other suppliers quickly gained momentum. Andrew Clennett from Clennett's Mitre Ten offered a contribution of timber supplies.

Craig and Sandra Clark of Clark Windows are helping out with windows.

Todd Tatnell from Tatnell Painters said it is always good to help out and is doing so along

with Scott Jackman at Dulux. Greg Smith and the team at Elliott's Cranes will see the pods all safety craned into place.

John Erends from Steeline said they would be up for providing steel for the rooves, and Isaac Gaul from Energy Solutions with electrical work.

Then you... the community, who have come on board in force with donations from a few dollars to several thousand. Every generous donation, large or small, is inching us closer to our goal. Our President, David Rees, even came up with a hair brained idea (his words!) to create a Tour de Ten Lives fundraiser where he and some dedicated mates rode bikes every day for 21 days, just like the 'other' tour. Supporter

Jacqui Guy ran an equivalent course every day. The Tour de Ten Lives team even went from Orford to the pinnacle of Mount Wellington in one ride. Thanks 'Mr. Prez' and team, that is really showing commitment to the cause with \$30,000 raised.

Ten Lives approached the State Government in 2020 during the height of the COVID pandemic to ask for help with this shovel-ready project. Premier Peter Gutwein and Minister Guy Barnett allocated \$200,000 to the project in the Government's November State Budget. They also gave our friends at the Dogs' Homes of Tasmania \$200,000 for significant upgrades to their facilities.

Making the announcement

**ELLIOTT'S**  
Crane Hire Pty Ltd

 **CLARK  
WINDOWS**



**R&TL Tatnell Pty Ltd**

# We're building them a brighter future...

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.



**STAFF AREA**



**VET CONSULT**



**MARKETING**



**RECEPTION**

Minister Guy Barnett said the Tasmanian Government was providing both organisations a grant of \$200,000 that will assist with their builds. "It's a great outcome and a win for all, as it will help the Dogs' Homes and Ten Lives organisations to continue providing for our furry friends while supporting local jobs and our economy as we continue to recover from COVID-19."

Much work has been underway on our building project with our engineers, JSA, working through the complex structural and hydraulics work that comes with building on a site such as 12 Selfs Point Road.

It is a very exciting time as we

finalise permits with Hobart City Council.

We are going to build!

The Board have committed funding to the project and we hope that work can commence on Stage 1 in June. As the work is starting offsite at Podmatrix in Cambridge, you won't see much progress at Ten Lives, then all of a sudden, the building will appear! We will keep you posted through our social media and through future editions of the Scratching Post.

For everyone who has helped so far ...thank you. A true community project where we are building cats in need a home they can count on.

## Tasmanian Government

The 2020-21 State Budget will deliver vital infrastructure that is supporting jobs and benefitting the Tasmanian community right across the State. The Dogs' Homes of Tasmania and Ten Lives Cat Centre do great work in caring for and rehoming dogs and cats, and the Budget locks in \$200,000 each to assist them with critical upgrades over the 2020-21 period.

**Dulux**

**ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

**Steeline**

# Can they **COUNT ON** your support?

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 and love



**24,000** foster carer cat and kitten vet consultations



**100,000** students of all ages will be engaged in Edu.Cat



**2.2 million** nights of foster care



**55,000** vet treatments



**100,000** volunteer hours worked at the Centre



**7,000** critical surgeries



**2.6 million** fauna saved from feral cats

## What next and how can you help?

As the engineers and architects finish off their significant work to get us to this stage, the Board and team at Ten Lives are finalising all the appropriate due diligence so that we can't start the building work for stage 1.

Stage 1 includes improved quarantine facilities for infectious disease and places to care for our sick cats and kittens.

The more we can raise, the more facilities we will be able to build for the care of our cats and the people that care for them.

If you can support our project in anyway, we would love to hear from you.

All donations add up so please consider a gift for our cats... a gift that they can count on.



Photo: Rachael Daniels/rachaelphotography.com



*Bruiser enjoying some sunshine in the office kitty's outdoor enclosure.*

# Old Bruisey Bum: The People's Cat

**ARTICLE BY: Stephanie Coe**

Bruiser was surrendered to us on the 15th of October 2020 as a senior cat living with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV). During his time here he had a strenuous health journey due to his FIV+ status, reoccurring ear and dental concerns, low-grade heart murmur and early kidney disease.

Bruiser came to us with a chronic ear infection. He had already been on medication for the ear infection when the Vet Team made the decision to take a closer look at his inner ear on the 1st of December. This revealed signs of previous damage or rupturing, so he was swiftly put

on new medication and the ear was cleaned of any residue from his previous issue.

Bruiser had dental surgery due to dental disease on arrival at the Centre. The teeth have been cleaned and removed as required, including the removal of a tooth that caused him problems via a hole that extended to his gumline and showed signs of infection. It is possible he will not require further dental treatment but monitoring of dental health by a vet annually is recommended.

Despite his health issues, Bruiser had a fabulous zest for life, and



his friendly and social nature made him the perfect candidate for office cat. He became instantly loved around the office during his stay, often finding a sunny spot or an office chair to claim as his own. Often finding comfort in the Manager's office (sometimes kicking the Manager out of his own chair!), Bruiser settled into his role beautifully.

Bruiser is FIV+ and therefore he needed to go to a home that will keep him as a strictly inside/contained cat. Luckily, his perfect forever home was not too far away.

Affectionately nicknamed 'Old Bruisey Bum' by members of the Ten Lives team, Bruiser was first spotted by his soon-to-be owner, Margaret, in an Unwanted Wednesday post on the Ten Lives Facebook page. This is a type of post dedicated to boosting our long-term residents. Margaret says she "couldn't resist

him", and officially welcomed Bruiser to his forever home on the 4th of February 2021. Bruiser now spends his days finding sunny spots to snooze in, enjoying some time outside with the supervision of his new family, and in true Bruiser fashion, stealing Margaret's favourite chair.

**Stories such as Bruiser's, a cat who required extensive medical care along with extended time at the shelter waiting to be adopted, highlights the urgency for improved facilities to address all the challenges we currently face to provide appropriate care for all the cats who come to us in need.**

*Right: Bruiser loved, and in turn was loved, by all the hoomins he met at Ten Lives.*

*Below: Bruiser in his forever home.*





*Brigitta and Sylvia ready for customers at our North Hobart Op Shop*

# Sisters are doin' it for Ten Lives!

**ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose**

Being part of the Ten Lives team feels like being part of one big family, but for volunteers Sylvia and Brigitta - who are sisters - the family feeling is a bit more real!

Sylvia originally started volunteering as an animal attendant at the Centre in 2011. "I got one of my cats from the old South Hobart Cat Centre and when he died in June 2011, it's going to sound strange, but because he was such a gift to me, because of the years I had him, I wanted to thank the Centre for giving him to me and that's why I

started volunteering, to say thank you for this precious cat." Sylvia recalls, "I loved it from when I started in 2011." Of course there is never a shortage of things to be done at the shelter. "Doing the litter, feeding them, cleaning the pens, washing up, hanging washing on the line, sweeping, mopping, it's a very busy time!"

With such a love of cats the obvious next step for Sylvia was to become a foster carer!

"I started fostering because I heard of a mother cat and kittens that got dumped in Glenorchy and it broke my heart. I thought

what more can I really do to help? I didn't know how I was going to go fostering a cat but I decided to just say 'yes' and I found it was very rewarding."

Brigitta is a more recent addition to the team, being recruited by her sister last year during the height of the pandemic.

"Sylvia said to me "Jon has sent an email to say we need people to volunteer at the Margate Op Shop, would you like to do it with me?"" Brigitta recalled, "And I said I would absolutely love it! Because we've always gone to op shops, since our children were

little, we love op shops. And I just want to help a worthy cause, meet people – I love talking to people and just interacting with people.”

Their op shop days continued post COVID, becoming part of the team at our North Hobart Op Shop.

“We just love looking forward to our op shop shifts when we come here, it’s a lovely experience, I love it!” Sylvia said. “We have got regulars, it’s just so nice to talk to them and they can come and talk to us, we can listen and laugh and joke and so on.”

“Giving them a good experience so they will come back, being helpful, sympathetic, whatever they need on the day so they think “yes I’ll go back to that shop.”” Brigitta added, “We both enjoy doing something for good, to raise money for the Cat Centre and we both enjoy it.”

“I was surprised how, I wanted to give, I’m surprised how

passionate I am - I just adore cats so its just a passion for me to help as much as I can.”

“We have had a number of volunteers who are now volunteering both at the Centre and at our Op Shops.” Volunteer Coordinator Jonathan Harvey said, “Volunteering at the Op Shops is a bit different from volunteering within the shelter environment and people are quite surprised at how much they enjoy it!”

“It’s an enjoyable experience - you will love it. You’re doing something so worthwhile, raising money for the Cat Centre to continue.” Brigitta said, Sylvia adding “Yes, it’s just you’re doing something that’s so wonderful.”

**You can find out more about becoming a volunteer with Ten Lives including positions we’re currently recruiting for or about our foster care program at [tenlives.com.au](http://tenlives.com.au)**



*ABOVE: Merchandising items in the shop.  
BELOW: Sorting donations in the warehouse*



# Veterinary Nursing:

An incredibly rewarding job

ARTICLE BY: Jennifer Pelham, Head Vet Nurse



Trainee Vet Nurse Rhianna Dean helping prepare for surgery.

**“Ten Lives helped my confidence with cats and low stress handling grow. Everyone is so patient, knowledgeable and supportive. I couldn’t have finished my studies without them.”**

*- Carla Ryan*

Being a veterinary nurse is an incredibly rewarding and exciting career. Due to its increasing popularity, gaining a position within the industry can be difficult. Having a nationally recognised qualification, a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing, helps individuals to gain a position in this competitive field.

There are numerous training providers that offer a Cert IV in veterinary nursing. The course is offered via distance education and provides training in practical and technical skills relevant to the care and nursing of animals. Students are required to be employed or to gain work placement within a

veterinary clinic before beginning their certificate. A cert IV is a big commitment for students (approx 2 years study and costing over \$7,000) and without prior experience in the veterinary industry it can be hard to know if this is the career path for them. The Ten Lives vet team have been able to assist those interested in a career in Veterinary Nursing by offering volunteer vet nursing positions.

Ten Lives has an on-site Veterinary Surgery and Veterinary team, made up of experienced veterinarians and veterinary nurses dedicated to the care of cats within the shelter. The volunteer veterinary nurse position is designed to assist

and support the veterinary team to carry out the surgical and medical procedures required for the cats in our care. The volunteer veterinary nurses duties are incredibly important during 'kitten season' which is the busiest time of the year for Ten Lives, where hundreds of cats come through the centre each month.

Our veterinary team is small in comparison to most veterinary clinics. They operate in two teams; a surgical team and a shelter medicine team; both teams comprising of one veterinarian and one veterinary nurse. The small team size provides a unique one on one experience for volunteers wanting to gain an insight into the role and responsibilities of a qualified Veterinary Nurse. For those who are committed to begin a Cert IV in veterinary nursing the vet team sign up to be their workplace assessors'. This involves mentoring the students, providing them with practical work experience and assisting with their theoretical study requirements. They are trained and competent to undertake high standards of patient care and client advice.

We are delighted that so many of our veterinary nurse volunteers have completed their Cert IV at Ten Lives and have become nationally qualified Veterinary Nurses. Completing their Cert IV has helped them to gain employment as a Veterinary Nurse at Ten Lives and other veterinary clinics in the greater Hobart area. Training students is a highly rewarding experience for the vet team, who are pleased to share their knowledge and skills with passionate individuals to help them achieve their dream career.

Congratulations to Amber

Schofield, Carla Ryan and Sam Griffiths for completing their Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing and dedicating their careers to caring for animals.

"Ten Lives helped my confidence with cats and low stress handling grow. Everyone is so patient, knowledgeable and supportive. I couldn't have finished my studies without them." Carla said.

Amber agreed, adding "Doing my training at Ten Lives meant that I had one on one support and guidance which really helped my development and growth as a vet nurse. I learnt to be confident

working with cats and was taught the value of low stress handling."

We currently do not have any vacant positions for a volunteer veterinary nurse however letters of interest accompanied with resumes are welcomed and can be sent to [info@tenlives.com.au](mailto:info@tenlives.com.au)



*Right: Carla Ryan monitoring an anaesthetic  
Below: Amber Schofield assisting Dr Emma Flittner anaesthetise a cat*



**"Doing my training at Ten Lives meant that I had one on one support and guidance which really helped my development and growth as a vet nurse. I learnt to be confident working with cats and was taught the value of low stress handling."**

**- Amber Schofield**



Veterinary treatments for the cats and kittens who come into our care is a significant part of Ten Lives' budget, averaging around \$10,000 each month. It's where funding for our shelter is always greatly needed.

As Tasmania's largest dedicated cat shelter, we see some of the worst cases of abuse and neglect. By joining our V.E.T.S. Club you can help us be at the ready to treat these kitties who come to us in need of life saving care and treatments. Join the club today at [tenlives.com.au/donate](https://tenlives.com.au/donate)

# Fiona's Facebook Friends

ARTICLE BY: Frith Williams

**When Fiona was surrendered to us on the 10th of December 2020 she had a severely deformed ear and thickening of the ear resulting in secondary infection all the way down to her ear drum.**

On clinical examination it was realised she would need surgery to correct the problem and this could only be done with particular equipment and a veterinarian skilled in this procedure.



Despite the discomfort of her condition, Fiona is one of the most affectionate cats the vet team have ever met!

Conducting a crowdfund on Facebook to cover the cost of Fiona's surgery, we raised the \$1500 thanks to our amazing supporters!

The procedure went well and Fiona recovered in foster care.

We contacted our friends at Hobart Community Veterinary Hospital and Dr Stumm agreed to perform the TECA-BO procedure. The term TECA-BO is an abbreviation for Total Ear Canal Ablation and Bulla



Her foster carer said: "She's a brave little thing and the lovely vet gushed over her friendly personality. She's going to get adopted so quickly when she's better!"

Before Fiona was ready for adoption, she also required a tooth to be extracted. Fiona had her dental on the 16th of February and went back to foster care.

Osteotomy. This surgery involves the complete removal of the ear canal and tympanic bulla (middle ear), leaving only the ear flap (pinna) remaining. Fiona underwent surgery in January.



When Fiona had fully recovered, she became available for adoption on the 4th of March.

Fiona is the sweetest little kitty who loves a gentle pat while sitting on your knee. She is very affectionate and will also play with toys, she likes to use the cardboard scratching boards.

Fiona found her forever home with Mikayla on the 13th of March.





# Pilot Program The Richmond Project Continues

ARTICLE BY: Dr. Tess Vitesnik

**“stray cats had been getting fed for many years... The result was a colony of around 15 or so, mostly undesexed cats. Two litters of kittens were born while the cameras were in place”**

Last year we launched a pilot program exploring cat management options within the community. This new model of cat management aims to solve the problem at the source rather than just reacting to it by accepting endless numbers of stray cats at the shelter year after year. The lessons learnt from the Bruny Island cat management project, that has been running for the last five years, were incorporated into a plan to tackle the cat problem in the hotspot of Richmond. Previous articles explored the Bruny Island project and background to the Richmond project, this article is an update from on the ground in Richmond.

## ***Defining the cat population***

After gathering results from a survey of the Richmond community and spending time talking to people within the community, we felt we were starting to understand the cat population in and around the town. To better visualise this DPIPWE generously lent us eight wildlife cameras that we set up in three key locations. The first location was the township itself, the second was farmland, and the third was a native garden on the outskirts of town. The cameras were left in place for 5 weeks.

Images from the centre of town were particularly striking. The camera here focused on an



area where stray cats had been getting fed for many years, on private property but also in the adjacent native community garden. The result was a colony of around 15 or so, mostly undesexed cats. Two litters of kittens were born while the cameras were in place with pictures being taken of mothers moving neonates and later of six different kittens playing together.



*Can you spot the 5 cats in this picture?*



*Note the neonate in the mother's mouth. This litter of kittens was caught at six weeks old, and all have been adopted out from the shelter.*

The cameras in other locations were picking up smaller numbers of cats, between 1 and 5. The only camera that did not capture any cat images was an un-grazed bush block on one of our farms. The owners of this farm have been very active with cat management for the last three decades.

**Microchipping day**

Before we started trapping any cats, we wanted to give the community the opportunity to have their owned cats microchipped. Microchipping

is the most reliable method of pet identification. If a pet cat does happen to get trapped, we can return it to the owners immediately if it is microchipped. The Richmond hall was hired, and Clarence City Council donated some microchips to be used on the day.

**Cat feeders**

We actively discourage people from feeding undesexed cats. The colony of cats in the centre of town existed there purely due to the huge quantities of food being placed out for them every day. We managed to stop food being left in this location. Unfortunately, undesexed cats are still being fed in other areas of town. It is an ongoing aim to try and change this behaviour. If cats are being fed, at the very least they should be desexed, so the population does not continue to grow and get out of hand.

**Trapping**

Two dedicated volunteers living in Richmond trapped 26 cats from the colony in the centre of Richmond. The six kittens mentioned earlier were all able to be placed in foster care and have all since been adopted from the centre. They were young enough to accept handling and although initially they were very timid and malnourished, they quickly acclimatised to living with people. If left to grow up on the streets some of these kittens would not have survived. The ones that did would have had a difficult life producing many kittens of their own. We used



*A bandicoot in the native garden on the outskirts of Richmond where stray/ domestic cats were frequently visiting.*



*A Tassie devil captured on the camera placed on the un-grazed bush block.*

wildlife cameras borrowed from Landcare to monitor the trapping efforts. Trapping ceased once all cats from the colony had been removed.

**Solving the problem**

We are aiming for zero stray cats in the township of Richmond. This will take an ongoing sustained effort reducing the food being provided to undesexed animals and trapping of existing undesexed cats. Education surrounding responsible cat ownership is also paramount. This is what we will be working towards over the next six months. We will be encouraging the Clarence Council to get involved and support us with this aim.

**“We actively discourage people from feeding undesexed cats. The colony of cats in the centre of town existed there purely due to the huge quantities of food being placed out for them every day.”**



# More hats than the Op Shop!

*Jeanette merchandising newly donated stock in the North Hobart Op Shop*



## ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose

Jeanette has currently been volunteering with Ten Lives for approximately 4 years.

“Of course like everyone who volunteers here, I’ve always had and loved cats.” Jeanette said, “I actually started my volunteering life with the original Cat Centre in South Hobart when I was a teenager. Things were a lot more basic then but we did the best we could. I even pounded the streets asking for donations! I returned to volunteer a little more in my 20’s whilst attending university. Then finally after raising a family and finding I had a little spare time on my hands, I began as an Animal Attendant.”

Like many volunteers, Jeanette saw more opportunities where she could offer help.

“I’ve had a few different roles at Ten Lives depending on what was going on in my life. For the first 2 years I basically fed, cleaned, chatted & patted the cats and kittens! I also began to foster at that time. I’ve fostered approximately 25 kittens of all ages and only recently had my

first foster fail, which I thought was a pretty good effort!”

**“I was encouraged by Rose, the Edu.Cat coordinator to become a facilitator in primary schools. It was, and still is a big challenge for me as I am not a teacher. I get very nervous but once the class starts, it just seems to flow and is over before you know it. I usually teach once a fortnight.”**

“However my favourite role is my latest one assisting at the new Op Shop in North Hobart.”

But Jeanette pointed out that volunteering at Ten Lives is not all ‘beer and skittles’.

“You don’t just sit around playing with kittens all day! It can be hard physical activity and sad situations will happen around you but as a volunteer you are shielded from them. You feel like part of the team and there are systems in place to help if you are struggling. After a solid day’s work you will feel satisfied and proud of what you have contributed towards improving the lives of many cats and kittens of Hobart.”



**TOP: Feeding the resident Op Shop cat  
MIDDLE: Bringing fosters in for a check up  
BELOW: Collecting an Edu.Cat resource kit**



Find out about volunteering with our education team or book our Edu.Cat STEM program for your classroom at [tenlives.com.au/educate](https://tenlives.com.au/educate)

• Lelu all grown up and ready  
• to find her forever home



# Lelu is a Survivor!

Love and dedication from our vet staff and foster carers guided little Lelu through a difficult start.

**ARTICLE BY: Frith Williams**

Lelu came to us on the 17th of October 2020 as a stray, two-day old kitten. She was found with her deceased mother and two siblings who were also in poor condition. Unfortunately, her siblings weren't as strong as Lelu and they sadly passed away as well.

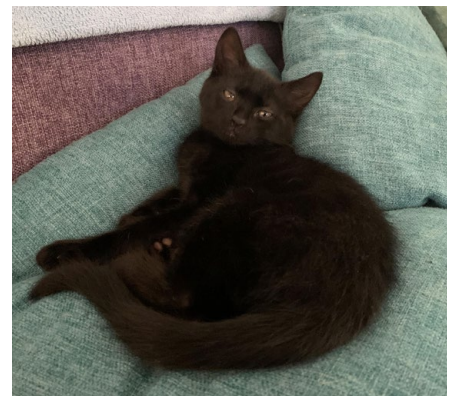
Lelu was placed into foster care with neonate specialist Vikki who worked her magic to get Lelu back to health! As she grew healthier and more independent, Lelu spent time in two more foster homes before she was ready for adoption.

Lelu grew into a friendly, happy girl who likes to receive lots of pats and cuddles! She likes to snuggle on the couch and on the bed with her hoomins. She is adventurous, playful and loves

to explore. She has been around other cats in foster care and with children and has been great with both.

Finally, on the 5th of January 2021, Lelu the survivor was big and healthy enough to be desexed. She made her way to the adoption room and found her forever home the very next day.

Our foster care program is an essential part of our work looking after our kitties. You don't have to foster all the time, fostering even for just a few weeks, helps with our vital work of caring for our kitties – register to be a foster carer now at: [tenlives.com.au/foster](https://tenlives.com.au/foster)



# Helping find a happy home



## ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose

Sachi has been volunteering with Ten Lives for nearly two years. Currently she is studying accounting. “At first, my English Tutor recommended that I volunteer with Ten Lives because she has two adorable cats and she knew that I loved cats.” Sachi explained: “In addition, I wanted to help cats wholeheartedly, as they may have had a miserable past. I strongly believe they deserve to get a better life and I thought Ten Lives was the best the place for changing their lives.”

Sachi said that when she worked the first shift, she could see that everyone was compassionate towards cats and respected others. “That’s why I chose to do volunteer work at Ten Lives.” As a volunteer animal attendant, Sachi helps feed cats, sort donations, clean cages, wash bowls – and also pat the cats!

“The most important role for me is to communicate with the cats and tell them I am always working so hard for them!” Sachi says, “I was very shocked at how many cats and kittens were at Ten Lives and how much effort goes into taking care of each animal and finding their happy home.”

In Sachi’s opinion, both the volunteers and staff are very friendly and try to help everyone. “If you have any questions, they will kindly answer them. At first, volunteering can be daunting, as it is hard to know everything but later, you become familiar with different tasks.” Sachi says, “Therefore, you do not need to panic, and you can get used to what you need to do. You can do each thing step by step.”

As Ten Lives is a very diverse and inclusive workplace, there are

always new things to be learnt.

“In my home country, Japan, it is considered that cats bring good fortune to people, including financial luck. They are always celebrated. Each cat has their own characteristics and behaviour, and I find that it is very interesting and energising to see and talk with them all the time. There are many kitty therapists at Ten Lives and they can help all of us to reduce our stress!” And if you’re considering becoming a volunteer Sachi says: “It is very fun and I am honoured to work with everyone here and of course the cats!”

**You can find out more about becoming a volunteer with Ten Lives including positions we’re currently recruiting for at [tenlives.com.au/volunteer](https://tenlives.com.au/volunteer)**

# Remembering Catbury



*Left: Quinette happy in her foster home.*

*Above: Dr Ruth Pye performs Quinette's amputation surgery.*

*Inset: Quinette's damaged foot with missing toes.*

## **The unforgivable and shocking treatment of a cat named Catbury is recounted in Frank Bingham's book, 'A Promise to Catbury'.**

The book described that Catbury from Ulverstone was six months old, the colour of dark chocolate and purred like an outboard motor. He had personality plus. Catbury fell victim to acts of cruelty that are difficult to believe that anyone could do. Frank Bingham made a promise to Catbury's family that he would be remembered.

Two decades on, the story of 'A Promise to Catbury' has stayed with Ten Lives supporter, Shane Dohnt.

Shane contacted Ten Lives and said that he felt the best way for him to help practically, was to sponsor the vet care needs of badly treated cats. He would contribute himself and raise funds at various times to go towards vet care. He hoped in some way the name of Catbury would live on in people's minds and that cruelty to animals would not be tolerated in our society.

It was not long after that kind offer that we needed to call on Shane's support.

Quinette is a tabby kitten that came into us with a Body Condition Score (BCS) or 1.5. BCS is measure out of 9 so this cat was just skin and bone.

Quinette had a badly damaged leg and missing toes.

The good Samaritan that brought Quinette in to Ten Lives did so because he was concerned that people in the area dealt with stray cats in a cruel way, but he lacked any hard evidence. So, he thought he would act to prevent a tragic or cruel ending and took Quinette into Ten Lives' care.

The operations team quickly called the vet team in on Quinette's admission to our vet hospital. Pain relief was the first priority followed by treatment of the wounds. We needed to get some condition back onto Quinette and the vet team were worried about her leg.

With our expert and attentive care, at Ten Lives and in Foster Care, Quinette responded well.

It was a rocky road with vomiting and diarrhoea to be managed while trying to get Quinette to gain weight.

Quinette's rear leg still remained a concern with reports from Foster Carers Shannon and Elijah saying that Quinette was still not able to put on any weight on the leg.

The Vet team assessed the best outcome for Quinette would be to amputate to the leg.

Ten Lives vet, Dr Ruth, was pleased with the surgery outcome and Quinette is happy and recovering with her Foster Carers with regular vet checks.

Foster Carer Shannon said Quinette has adapted brilliantly to her new circumstances and in less than a couple of days was happy and playing with their dog, cat and... pet rat? (Quinette we might have to talk to you about that last one!)

A happy ending indeed. Lucky for Quinette that Ten Lives is here for her and that supporters like Shane take positive action to help and... remember Catbury.

# YOU'RE PAWSOME!!!

A shout out to all the local businesses who have been supporting us.

Ten Lives 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.



*The wonderful people of Devine Property Hobart.*

Thank you to Sam & Marc from Devine Property for their \$500 donation on behalf of a client as part of their Property with a Purpose initiative.

Thank you so much!



*Ellen from Dispatch, 176 New Town Road, New Town*

A big thank you to Ellen from Dispatch Hobart who dropped in a \$175 donation for our kitties today! Ellen is donating 3 cents from every coffee sold (still ongoing) at Dispatch to Ten Lives so be sure to grab a coffee and say hi to Ellen if you're in the area!

## Entertainment

Fundraising with Entertainment

20% of every Membership we sell, goes directly to our fundraising

**Ten Lives Cat Centre**

Order your Memberships online today!

[www.entbook.com.au/240v102](http://www.entbook.com.au/240v102)



SCAN HERE

\*Member offers are subject T&Cs. Check individual offers on the Entertainment Membership App or [www.entertainment.com.au](http://www.entertainment.com.au)

## More ways to enjoy every day

From dining to shopping, to travel, get more of what you love & give back to our cause.

Share in the good, with up to 50% off & 2 for 1 deals in your city and across Australia and New Zealand.

Support us. Buy your Entertainment Membership today!



Thank you to Ray and the patrons at the Derwent Tavern who have raised \$1100 for us! Thank you so much for your donation! Bruiser says cheers!



*Derwent Tavern located at 7-11 Old Main Rd, Bridgewater TAS 7030.*

Our lovely volunteers up bright and early for a sausage sizzle at the Hobart Colourfrenzy Run!!! The event and the sausage sizzle together raised \$1,198. Thank you so much!



*Leanne and Zen having a blast as volunteer cooks.*

A big thank you to Jacinta and the team/ customers at Claremont Makers Market for donating much needed goods! Our kitties and team appreciate your kindness and hard work!



*Claremont Market*

## How can I help?

There are many ways you can donate to Ten Lives:

### Building Fund

Provide better quarantine facilities and disabled accessible areas.

### Financial Donations

Provide ongoing care for cats and kittens as well as the maintenance of our facilities.

### Donation of goods

We're always grateful to receive donations like beds and blankets for our kitties along with items like office supplies and cleaning products that are necessary in the running of the Centre.

### Passport

If you are unable to adopt a cat, but would like to have a cat in your life, why not subscribe to the Ten Lives Cat Centre's sponsorship programme!

### Bequest

Gifts left in wills (known as bequests) are vital to the life-saving animal welfare work we undertake on a daily basis here at the Centre.

**Find out more at [tenlives.com.au/donate](https://tenlives.com.au/donate)**



# Creative for a cause

**Minella started volunteering in January 2020 at the Cat Centre and August 2020 at the North Hobart Op Shop.**

“It sounds selfish, but it makes me feel good!” Minella says, “When I interact with cats, it makes me feel good. When I learn new things, I feel good. I am not a chatty person, and when I have a good conversation with a co-volunteer, staff, or patrons, it makes me feel good. When I know I contributed, I feel good.”

“Life is already complicated and sometimes too much to handle. So, why not find ways to lessen the burden and find ways to make you feel good and keep you going.”

Professionally, Minella is a freelance graphic designer. At the shelter Minella helps produce social media content and printed marketing materials. “I update their kennel cards, photos in ShelterBuddy, and sometimes

help the cat flyers, passport and layouts for the Scratching Post.”

While at the Op Shop the role is somewhat different. “The first thing to do is some housekeeping and restocking shelves. If there is a cat, I feed, change the litter box, and clean the indoor enclosure. Then it’s time to get into business and stay at the retail counter, process sales transactions, and have little chats with customers. If the shop is not busy and I have another colleague, I try to do some treasure hunting and post them on Instagram.”

Minella said when it comes to the people, you could feel a sense of community.

“Everybody is ready to lend a hand, just ask.” She said, “The organisation and the people (staff and volunteers) are selfless. Not only that they care for the cats, but they also care for the people. They have an ongoing “Resilience Program” that

provides tools to keep our minds and bodies healthy. They invite a clinical psychologist and a fitness instructor to lead the activities.”

There are other benefits to volunteering too, “For people who can’t afford or are not allowed to have cats in their rental, volunteering at Ten Lives is a great way to mingle with these floofs and learn about their stories. You don’t know how your little time spent in the centre or the shop is a massive contribution to the lives of these floofs and the community.”

**“You’ll be surprised how the experience is changing you for the better.”**

When not volunteering, Minella enjoys bingeing on Netflix, taking care of her plants, and cooking. She and her husband also do bushwalking at least once a week. “We have this goal to reach the different mountain summits in Hobart, then the whole of Tasmania.”





# Charlie's home away from home

**Charlie is one of the many kitties who call our boarding facility their second home. We offer personalised and attentive care for even the most pampered kitties!**

**TESTIMONIAL BY: Jenni, Charlie's Hoomin**

Three years ago we adopted an older cat from Ten Lives - 6 year old Charlie. Charlie came with a few anti-social issues, not liking people or change. Charlie settled into his new life with help and guidance from Ten Lives.

When time came to have a holiday, we knew Charlie could not come with us so we looked at boarding places. Ten Lives came to our attention again. We booked Charlie in the boarding section of Ten Lives, but were concerned about how he would cope being away from his usual home. Ten Lives put our minds at ease with regular messages, photos and general updates on how Charlie was doing. The Centre went above and beyond at helping Charlie adjust to his boarding, they fed him his special diet, even harnessed walked him

when he was there for several weeks!

Upon collecting Charlie from Ten Lives, he was calm, relaxed and happy. It gave us peace of mind knowing he was cared for and looked after. He received lots of brushing and attention from staff.

If you are looking at boarding your cat and want a clean nurturing environment for a short- or long-term stay, give Ten Lives a phone call.

The Ten Lives staff are happy to show you around, listen to your cats needs and accommodate as best they can. Charlie has been boarding with Ten Lives anywhere from 4 day stays to 5 weeks, he now enjoys the attention and staff know him and his needs!

Ten Lives Cat Centre boasts a 20 room boarding accommodation facility. All rooms are individual, and furnished with a multilevel design, providing room to stretch the legs, climb up high off the ground, and a private litter box location.

**For all bookings and enquiries please call 6278 2111**

## Boarding Rates

Service Fee		\$20 PER ROOM
1 <sup>st</sup> Cat		\$20 PER NIGHT
2 <sup>nd</sup> Cat (SAME ROOM)	+	\$15 PER NIGHT
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Cat (SAME ROOM)	+	\$12 PER NIGHT
Medication	+	\$3 PER NIGHT PER CAT

# #catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



**TAWNY**  
(FORMERLY, TORI)

"We had been looking at the Ten Lives cats online for a while. We knew that we wanted a cat from a shelter. We got three different styles of bed for Tawny, and of course she ignored all of those and prefers to sleep next to me, I never imagined that I would be that person, but apparently I am. Tawny is the perfect family member, affectionate at times, but happy to just lay in the sun or up on a chair. We brush her several times a day, but she always wants more, she loves being patted and if you do both at the same time she is in heaven.

All our family and friends like her too, and are impressed by her love of tummy rubs. Finding our lovely little lady cat has enriched our home life so much, it was the best decision."  
- Mengya, Tawny's hoomin. Adopted Dec 2020

"We have been visiting Ten Lives since Feb 2019, always wanted to adopt a cat but was too scared to talk to the landlord. I loved Tiggy from first sight and couldn't really hold back, so we talked to landlord and got the approval.

She is very friendly and jumped onto my bed on the first night, though she used to be a stray and could get really nervous and hid under the sofa. We just let her be and she got better and better each day. We hugged her a lot and tell her she's doesn't have to leave or be bullied by dogs anymore, and she seems to understand."

- Rebecca, Tiggy's hoomin. Adopted Jul 2019

📷 @tiggy\_sausage



**TIGGY**  
(FORMERLY, TIGEY)



**TEDDY**  
(FORMERLY, LIMMY)



**PERRY**

- "Perry came into our lives a month after losing our dear 15yo Oska at the beginning of the Covid lockdown, and I was working from home and it was extremely lonely in the house without a fluffy presence. After a few emails to the lovely staff at Ten Lives, an image of Perry was sent through and a visit was arranged. It was love at first sight for this mischief making kitten!
- Perry settled in very well. He was a little nervous at first and was so little he could fit into all the best hiding spots. After a few weeks, he was allowed to explore his outdoor enclosure, which he now enjoys every day." - Adam and Jenna, Perry's hoomins. Adopted Apr 2020

James and Cola





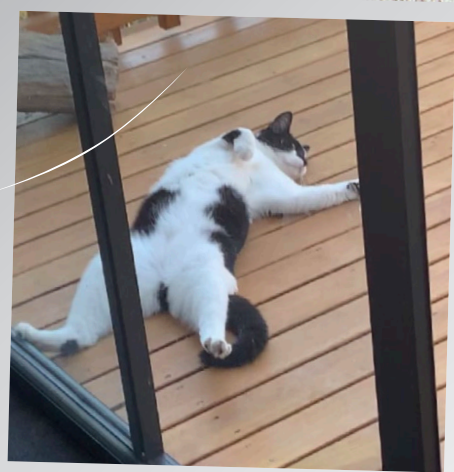
HENRY

"During 2019/20, I was on a quest to find a cat to adopt. It had been a few years since I last had a cat in the family, and I was really missing having a lil' sidekick. Two days after my 20th birthday, I was yet again browsing through the Ten Lives Facebook page, when I spotted Henry. It was like love at first sight! I immediately sent a picture of Henry to my mum, who would be around the area after she finished her work for the day. Mum replied, 'I'm afraid I've been asked to work later today, I won't be able to get to the cat centre in time before they close.' I sadly don't have my license, so I was unable to go and adopt Henry myself. After I came home from work, slightly heartbroken over missing the chance to adopt the precious ginger kitten, my mum arrived home not long after me, with a very new-looking cat carrier, and inside... was Henry! What a surprise! On Henry's first night home, he was already cuddling next to my 5 year-old sister, sprawled on the couch, curled in my lap, and wrapping himself around my neck like a little kitten scarf. He's been the best companion to have, especially during the 2020 lockdown. For me, Henry was one of the only good things to come out of 2020, and for that, I am truly grateful."  
- Ellie-mae, Henry's hoomin. Adopted Jan 2020.



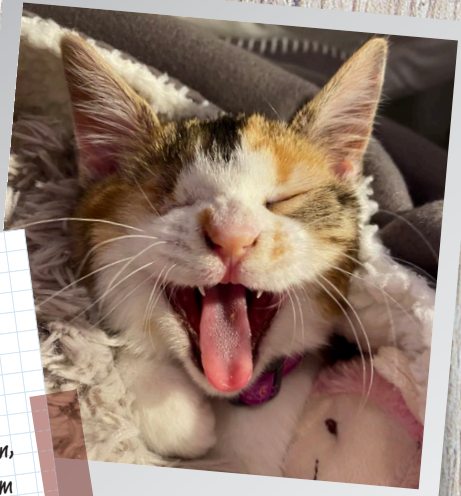
COLA  
(FORMERLY, DEEDEE)

"Our eldest son James (nearly 5), had been wanting to get a pet for a long time. After speaking with a family member that had experience in fostering and adopting kittens, we were hooked on the idea! James was immediately 'adopted' by Cola (DeeDee). After some deliberation, we knew that we had to also bring his brother Teddy (Limmy) home, as well. They have settled in so well! They are eating, playing and sleeping well and even tolerating our three year olds' over-enthusiastic cuddles!"  
- Darren, Cola & Teddy's hoomin. Adopted Mar 2021



CARAMEL

"I adopted Caramel almost 2 years ago. It was love at first sight, and even though we weren't actively looking for another feline friend we couldn't let her slip away. Caramel settled in really well, initially becoming friends with our pup. It feels like she's always been here."  
- Olivia, Caramel's hoomin. Adopted Jun 2019



HONNI

"I fell in love with her during my shift, and knew I needed her in my life. Honni loves everyone she sees, she is always happy and running around, but only for 30 minutes to an hour before she sleeps for the next 5 hours, she loves attention, snuggles, food, the box of the toys mum buys (she does like the toys - but boxes, am I right?)"  
- Emily, Honni's hoomin. Adopted Mar 2021

@honnitheoneeyedkitty

## Are You Part of It?

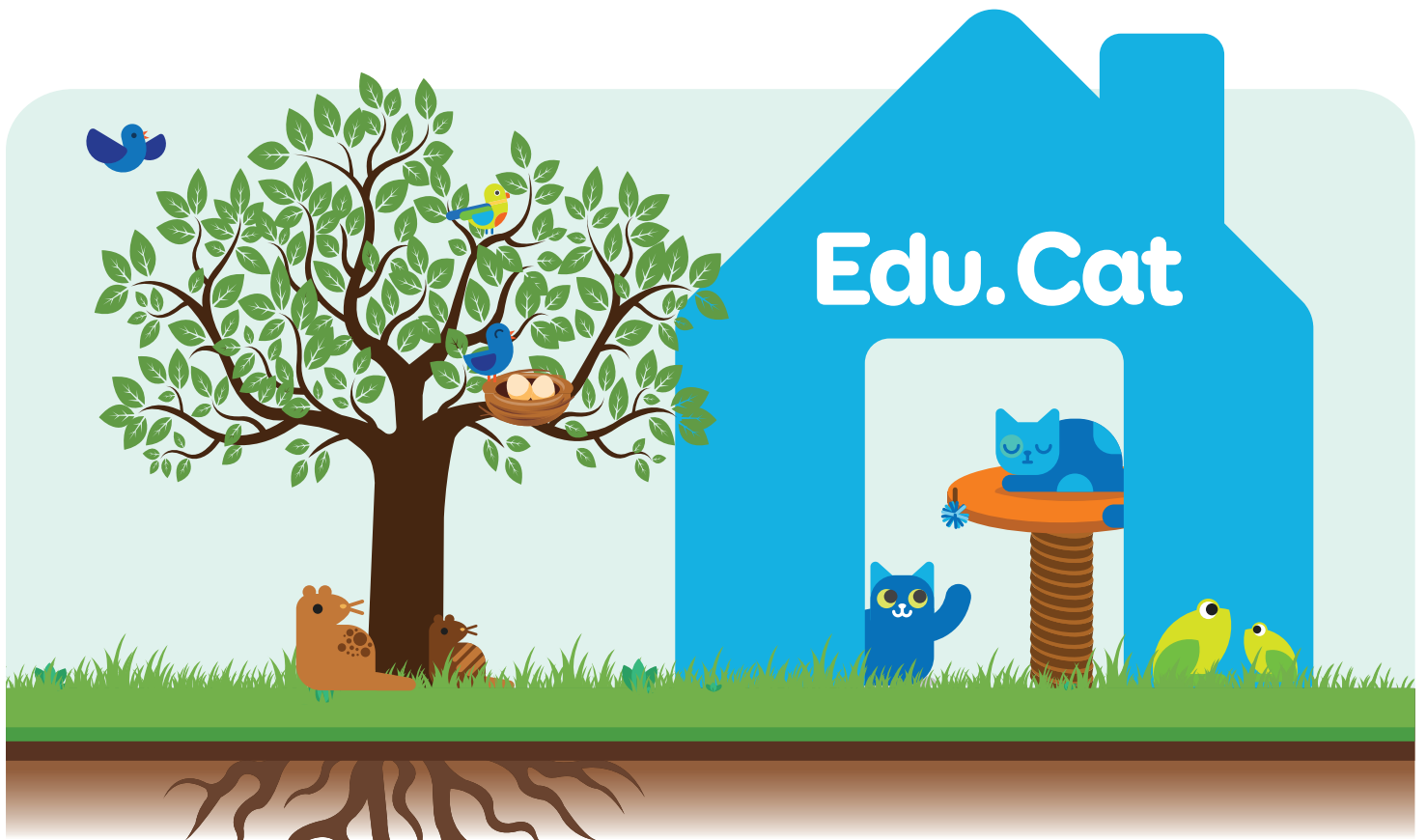
How has YOUR Ten Lives kitty settled into their forever home? We'd love an update!

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

[tenlives.com.au/media-upload](https://tenlives.com.au/media-upload)

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





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