

scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Summer 2021

Queen of the Catwalk:

Jezabel leads the way for crowdfunding challenge



ALSO: RICHMOND OPEN GARDENS : RINGWORM & FOSTER CARING : BUBBLE'S JOURNEY

We're building them a brighter future...

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?

Photo: Rich East



Cover

Model: Jezabel

Photographer: Rich East

Jezabel initially came into the care of Ten Lives as a stray on the 1st of April 2020 when she was approximately one year old. At no fault of her own, Jezabel was returned from adoption twice, before she finally found her purrfect match with Jim along with her forever home on 7th August 2021. Find out more about Jezabel's story on Page 8!



Jezabel in April 2020

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



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President's Preview

Welcome to the Summer 2021 edition of the Scratching Post. As the team collected these stories from the past 6 months, it was clear to me that they share an ongoing theme of community involvement. Just as much as Ten Lives is here for the cats, the community is here for us.

The success of Ten Lives is directly dependent on the dedication of our supporters. As you'll see in Kitten Corner this edition, an increasing part of that support is youth involvement.

Every year I am amazed at the commitment of our volunteers, Op Shop Teams, Centre staff & Vet Team, and people just like you. It's this support that allows Ten Lives to care for and rehome the cats of Tasmania that so desperately need our help.

Please enjoy this edition of the Scratching Post and I hope you have a happy and festive holiday season.

- David Rees, President

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We're building them a brighter future...

Pat Makes Richmond Open Gardens A Bloomin' Success

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives

PHOTOS: Rich East, Vaiva Ikanevice & Lily



Pat Giles poses in her beautiful gardens, developed over the past four years.



Richmond village residents opened their gardens in November to raise funds for the Ten Lives Building Project. The event was organised by Op Shop Volunteer, Pat Giles, whose garden was one of five exhibited on the day.

The crowds were blessed with a blue skied spring day and were lining up from 10am at Pat's in Commercial Rd where the event was coordinated.

The day also included plant sales, and an op shop & cupcake stall. Ten Lives Community and Education Manager, Rose Bray, set up a table to discuss cat welfare with the public.

Pat began working the overgrown garden and adjacent paddock in 2017 with husband Graham. It now features a cottage garden, woodland shaded garden, native borders, lawn with perennial borders, and the most exquisite daphne hedge. All these elements are brought together with a gravel path and drystone walls. A sandstone paved circle edged with crocosmia now stands where the paddock once was below a vegetable terrace with raised beds and trellis.

Pat and Graham's garden also features a great example of cat

containment. They have built two outdoor enclosures separated by a 20 metre cat run giving their kitties the opportunity to enjoy the garden safely.

Visitors to Lorraine and John Headlam's backyard were welcomed through a series of garden rooms Lorraine has been developing for over 20 years. A magnificent elm tree stands as the centrepiece of the garden. A path takes you through the rooms to a feature fountain encircled by a box hedge, the area bordered by catnip and yellow and violet irises. The garden retains glimpses of Butchers Hill.

Many visitors chose to enjoy the walk between the gardens and soon found themselves on the other side of town at Bev and Geoff Reid's garden.

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?

Bev & Geoff Reid's beautiful blooms.



The Headlam's feature fountain.



Susan & Andrew Finney's playful topiary.



The Edmondson's stunning cacti.



Pat & Graham Giles's cat enclosure.



Visitors enjoying the beautiful day.



Bronwyn & Leanne at the Op Shop stall.



Zoe Taylor's delicious kitty cupcakes.



Rose Bray explaining our Edu.Cat program.



Rebuilt in 2003, they created a conventional English style garden of lawns and arbours with perennial borders. Plantings include clematis, rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias and succulents.

On the next street over Susan and Andrew Finney delighted visitors with their enchanting property. Described as a private haven away from the hustle and bustle outside the front gate, the circled pavers lead visitors under shady trees and past playful topiary. Extensive hedging and perennials bring the elements together.

A mystery garden announced on the day charmed the public with its contemporary design. Tara & David Edmondson developed the garden and filled it with dry tolerant perennials including

succulents and delightful flowering cacti. It features a productive kitchen garden with structural feature plants bringing the garden together.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all with over 400 visitors attending the event. A total of \$8000 was raised from tickets, plant & stall sales, and donations on the day. Pat planned and developed the event all on her own accord, including rounding up the 20 volunteers who helped out on the day.

The staff and kitties at Ten Lives would like to thank Pat for not only her ongoing volunteer work at the Argyle St Op Shop and her key involvement in the Richmond Project, but also for so generously applying her time and skills in raising this significant

donation.

We would also like to thank volunteers on the day Angela Swan, Minella Rivera, Vaiva Ikanevice, Jon Harvey, and Preben Sørensen who ran the gate sales. Richard Bullough and Phyllis Sorour who ran the Covid check in. Bronwyn Limbrick, Leanne Cook, and Jeanette Gartlan who ran the Op Shop stall. Grace, Eve, & Lily for running the cupcake stall. Ashmore's apprentice chef, Zoe Taylor, who baked the 100 cupcakes. Christine Clifford and Anne Lewis who also assisted on the day. And of course, the wonderful garden owners Pat & Graham Giles, Lorraine & John Headlam, Tara & David Edmondson, Susan & Andrew Finney, and Bev & Geoff Reid.

We're building them a brighter future...



Sam from Podmatrix with Noel from Ten Lives in front of materials for our new buildings, discussing the current building industry materials shortage. *PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives*

Material Things: Building Project Update

This major infrastructure upgrade to our facility will allow us to continue to address the cat management problem in Southern Tasmania. It will enable improvements in statewide community education, including promoting responsible cat ownership and addressing the feral cat problem.

The major risk to the project has been the shortage of building materials which is affecting the building industry Australia wide. This has limited the supply of windows, steel, and timber.

Our contracted building company, Podmatrix, has advised that they have secured windows and construction materials through their regular suppliers such as Clennett's Timber and Wideview Windows. They have had long standing commercial relationships and are receiving some priority in having their orders fulfilled.

Podmatrix construct the buildings as pods at their Cambridge factory then the pods are transported to our site, craned into position and joined to existing structures.

While material supply has impacted the commencement of building the pods, we are confident that we will meet the target of completion in 2022. We are looking forward to the

completion of the project and the significant benefits it will bring to effective cat management in Tasmania.

First to be put in place will be six pods that form the four buildings along the Selfs Point Road fence line. This includes a new Sick Bay, Ringworm/ Isolation, and two additional rooms. We can then relocate the staff and animals from the three demountable buildings so they can be removed. This will make way for the building of the Shop, Cat Education Area, and Cat Play Area.

We have nearly reached our fundraising goal to completely fund Stage 1 of the project. We hope you are as excited as we are at what the future holds!

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?

We also send our gratitude to all who have supported Ten Lives, and to our ambassador, Dave Noonan, for his help in rallying the support of local businesses.

To all those who have donated so far, thank you.

Stage 1 of the project 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 who care for them.

If you can support our project in any way, 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.



No One Wanted This Cat, And Here's Why –

Jezebel's Story

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives
Originally Posted on 14 July 2021



Jezebel is nothing short of a remarkable cat, and when she came to Ten Lives in April 2020 we knew it wouldn't be long before she found a home. A week later she did, in fact, find a home, but as the story goes it was not meant to be.

What we needed to understand about Jezebel is that she is no ordinary cat. She is highly intelligent and requires an active lifestyle. Her new owners soon realised that she was not the right fit for their household and were unable to keep up with her needs.

Jezebel was placed with various foster carers before returning to the Ten Lives adoption rooms in March 2021 in the hopes of finding her forever home. Now, one would hope that the story is about to end here, unfortunately not. Jezebel was, in fact, adopted out. But again as the story goes, it was not meant to be.

Jezebel's latest owners were unable to give her the home she needed. At no fault of their own they just could not keep up with her.

Now, this is not an *adoption fail* story because the final chapters of Jezebel's story

had not yet been written, and we turned to you, the public, to help us find Jezebel's forever home.

In her most recent time in foster, carer Shuangzi saw the potential in this cat and started harness training her. Shuangzi's love and support for Jezebel during this time resulted in a cat that loves spending time outside and loves exploring.

The reason no one wanted Jezebel

Jezebel is a cat that requires a big commitment of time and attention, and unfortunately for her, most people are not able to provide that for her in their day to day lives. When she doesn't get the attention she needs she will tell you about it, and that leads to behaviour such as night time vocalisation – not a very desirable attribute for someone sharing your home!

But the reality is this, when her needs are met she is nothing short of a super snuggly, playful, and faithful companion.

We were on the hunt for Jezebel's owners and we were casting our net wide. Somewhere out there was

someone who understood that a cat has the potential to be more than a pet to meet you when you get home, that they can be an active part of your lifestyle.

What life would be like with Jezebel

All across the world people are realising the potential of cats as active companions in their lifestyles. More and more we are hearing of incredible cats who like to head down to the park or local café spot; of cats that like going hiking, camping, and even travelling with their owners.

Thanks to Shuangzi, Jezebel was harness trained and ready to go. With the love and support of a very special human we knew she would be the most amazing companion. All it takes is just one person to realise this.

And, how can I be so sure of this?

Well, for 6 years I travelled around Australia with my own cat, Willow, in our campervan. Along the way we met countless remarkable cats living their best lives with their devoted owners. What I see in Jezebel is what I saw in Willow all those years ago.

When I wrote that article back in July, I couldn't have imagined what happened next. It was shared, liked, and read by thousands of people, each wanting to help Jezabel find her human. But in the back of my mind I understood that she had already been through two unsuccessful adoptions.

As the story goes, there was someone out there who could write those chapters and his name was Jimmy! Our morning meetings weren't the same after she left. I know we aren't meant to have favourites, but she had a huge impact on many staff members who looked forward to seeing her each day.

On a sunny day in September, Jimmy visited Ten Lives with Jezabel on harness. She strutted in as if she was still the Queen. I gave her some welcome-back scratches and shared some stories of how she used to take our volunteers out for long walks.

Jimmy told me of the adventures they had been having together. Hikes along the beach. Visits to the skatepark. Late night suburban wanderings. After a busy day together, she could often be found falling asleep on Jimmy's guitar. In that moment I knew Jezabel had found the right human. They were a purrfect match.

From the moment I met Jezabel I knew that she was a remarkable cat, and it would take a remarkable human to give her the life she deserves. I am happy to say that she is now living that life.

In many ways this is a story about seeing the potential in someone (human or feline) and what can be possible if you give them a chance.

For Jimmy, he could see that Jezabel was more than just a cat needing a home. He saw the potential of what their friendship could be together. As someone who works in a shelter, it's stories like Jezabel's that warm my heart.

- Rich



Rich and Willow living their best life!
PHOTO: vancatmeow.com



Jezabel met her ideal match in Jimmy, who was able to give her the attention and adventure she craved!
PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives

KITTEN CORNER

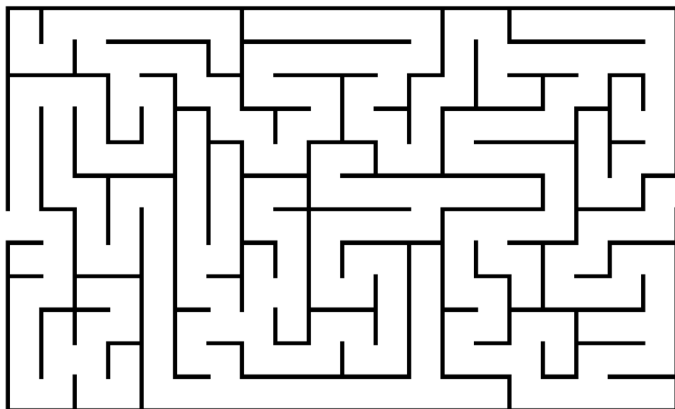


WORD SEARCH

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- CONTAINMENT
- ENRICHMENT
- MICROCHIP
- DESEX
- KITTEN
- LITTER
- WHISKERS
- MEOW
- PAWS
- POUNCE
- CATNIP
- TOYS
- PURR
- STRAY
- FELINE



GET INVOLVED WITH TEN LIVES

Check out these cool ways students have helped the kitties here at Ten Lives.



Aaliyah and Emily from Mount Carmel College donated these awesome blankets to the Centre. They made them as part of the school's STRIVE program. Our office cat at the time, Jezabel, had a look and gave her approval!

Emily from Snug Primary School organised a fundraiser selling baked goods. She raised an incredible \$131. Great effort Emily!



Twins Yousif and Ridha spent their birthday money on cat food which they donated to the Centre. Can you see Dean and Deanna in the background? They seem very grateful for the generosity of the two, as were we!

Students from Forest Primary School learnt about cat welfare and the environment when Rose and Maria from Ten Lives Edu.Cat visited them. They found out about cat containment and microchipping and ways to keep our wildlife safe. They loved the Edu.Cat program so much they sent us these awesome thank you cards!



DID YOU KNOW

that you can bring the Edu.Cat program to your school? How cool would it be to have Ten Lives in your classroom! Ask your teacher or parent today!

Edu.Cat

tenlives.com.au/educate

On the 1st of October we kicked off our first annual Ten Lives Ten Day Catwalk Challenge crowdfunder!

CATWALK Challenge



Nan Cat Meow



Wolfie's Catwalk Challenge



Archie's Garden Rambles



Benji Strutting the Catwalk



Peachy's Parade



Vegemite's Walk for Ten Lives



P.M. Trumble Visits her Electorate



Babishka's Run



Terrance Goes Outside



Flea and Lily's Walk and Read



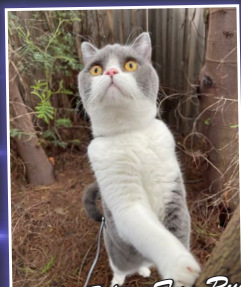
Otto



Harvey Struts His Stuff



Jasper's Adventures



Fergie's Feline Fun Run



Fur Queen Odette's Royal Walkabout



Fergie's Feline Fun Run



Miss Minnie's Walking West Hobart



Sir Pals Paws



Daffy's Daily Walk Fundraiser



Aztec's Catwalks



Jezabel's Catwalk

Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt said the Challenge aims to raise \$10,000 in 10 days to cover after hours emergency vet bills for our foster kitties during this kitten season.

"Each year during kitten season, Ten Lives has to find over \$10,000 for after hours emergency vet services." He said, "This is on top of running our own Vet Surgery during business hours where we are providing more than 10,000 treatments per year to all the lost and unwanted cats and kittens."

21 participants took part in the Catwalk Challenge, raising over \$7,500. The Challenge promoted responsible cat ownership including containing your cat, along with encouraging enrichment for cats, and of course, provided some great social media content!

Thank you to all of our participants and to everyone who supported them by making a donation. A special shout out to Fergie who had his donations generously matched dollar-for-dollar by the Vodafone Foundation. After this year's success, it will now become an annual fundraiser for Ten Lives!

You can find out more on how to donate to Ten Lives or find tips and tricks to help train your cat to walk on a harness at tenlives.com.au

A Q&A with Amazing Angela



*MAIN PHOTO: Angela with Dawn the kitten in Richmond. PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives
INSET: Angela volunteering in the Vet Room.*



Angela Swan is just one of the fantastic team of Vet Team Volunteers here at Ten Lives. When not helping care for the kitties at the shelter, she is also caring for our kitties in her home as a foster carer and has been part of the Richmond Project.

How long have you been volunteering with Ten Lives and what role do you volunteer in?

Approximately 2 and a half years as a Vet room assistant.

Why did you decide to volunteer with Ten Lives?

I wanted another aspect to my life. Something a little different from my usual work and family routine. I like to be busy and have a great love for animals, so Ten Lives became my new interest.

When I'm not at Ten Lives I'm normally...

I own and operate a cafe, a B&B and have 4 children, so I am working and running around all over the place.

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

I volunteer in the vet surgery, assisting with pre and post surgical care of cats and kittens as well as helping to ensure that instruments and drapes are sterilised and the surgery is clean and well stocked.

What surprised you most about volunteering with Ten Lives?

The variety of roles that are available for volunteers and the vision and future plan that Ten Lives has as an organisation.

Favourite fictional cat?

I only like real ones!

What would you tell someone who was thinking about adopting a cat?

There is a cat to suit every human. They are all different and great comfort when you find the special one to suit you.

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

Don't over commit yourself at the start. Start off with the amount of shifts that are achievable for you longer term. Volunteers work hard. It is rewarding and interesting work that can give you the opportunity to learn new skills and meet some fantastic new people. If you love animal welfare, then there are many ways to help in this organisation.

"Fifteen thousand bucks. It's all there pal!"
MAIN PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives



Laundry

Blues Appeal

ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose, Ten Lives

When Ten Lives needed help raising \$15,000 for our laundry upgrade, Ambassador Dave Noonan enlisted the help of some unlikely heroes.

Dave brought in the fabulous Blues Brothers Revival Band to help us rally support from the public.

The aging laundry which cleans thousands of blankets and beds to a hospital grade level keeps our kitties warm and safe throughout the year.

With all the washing to do we had the laundry blues!

When a kitty is adopted or discharged from our hospital, all their bedding and blankets

need to be thoroughly washed and disinfected. The washing pile, affectionately named 'Mount Washmore', stacks up very quickly!

We had recently installed a 35kg industrial washer, which was purchased with the assistance of a Stronger Communities Grant secured by Andrew Wilkie MP. Now we needed to upgrade the laundry and install an industrial dryer that could keep up.

But more importantly, completing the laundry would allow us to progress to the next stage of the Building Project, our intensive care unit.

With the help of the Ten Lives Creative Team, Dave and the

Blues Brothers recreated the scene from the movie where the brothers return to the orphanage and were asked to raise some money.

The scene was complete with an exceptional performance by Noonan as the head nun dressed complete in habit.

The video was released on social media and reached an audience of over 40,000 people. Soon enough, support from the public started flowing in.

Local businesses got on board including Nicole & Pete from the Paddy Wagon Hotel & Bistro Glenorchy, Cooleys Hotel Moonah, and Modern Musician Hobart.



Further funds were raised through a raffle with the first prize generously donated by Alex & Kylie at Betta Pet Systems. The prize was an outdoor cat enclosure that ticket buyers were very keen to win. Kirsten Kunz was the luck winner who got to take the enclosure home with them.

But it was the generous support of one single donor that got us across the line. The person who wished only to be known as The Hoop-Laa Lady made the donation in honour of her mother who sadly passed away. It's with immense gratitude that we received this donation, so thank you The Hoop-Laa Lady.

With the \$15,000 successfully raised, the new dryer was ordered and building work commenced in the laundry to prepare for its arrival.

The dryer has now been installed and is operational, helping to keep many a kitty cosy and dry.

Now that this stage of the Building Project has been completed we can commence work on the important intensive care unit.

Ten Lives would like to thank all of the individuals who contributed to the Laundry Blues Appeal, along with the generous donations from local businesses and The Hoop-Laa Lady.

Of course, the appeal would not have been a possible without the skills of Dave Noonan and the Blues Brothers, real identities Stephen Ashton & Darren Sangwell.

Donate Now

With the final touches of our laundry upgrade having been successfully ironed out and completed thanks to your support, Ten Lives looks to the next stage of our building project.

Find out how your generosity can continue to directly help out cats and kittens in need by visiting tenlives.com.au/donate



A warm reunion for beautiful Bubble
with her old family friends Steve and Sue.
PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives



Orphan Bubble Arrived At Our Shelter...

What Happened Next Warmed Our Hearts!

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives

When a grey and white girl named Bubble arrived at Ten Lives we learnt that her only hoomin had recently passed away.

The cat had been the loving companion of the man on his property at Geeveston. After his passing, police notified the RSPCA and let them know that the cat was now alone, and their team promptly got to work in bringing her into care.

Fast forward a few days and Bubble was dropped off by the RSPCA team, and was ready for processing by our team here at Ten Lives.

As part of the intake process at our Centre, every cat is examined by our Vet Team. On top of a general health check, worming, and flea treatment it was discovered that Bubble had not been microchipped or desexed. She was promptly booked in for surgery and, after recovery, was ready to proceed with placement in our adoption rooms.

Then we received a phone call from interstate...

It was from a couple who lived in South Australia and they had learnt that Bubble was now in care at Ten Lives. They introduced themselves as Steve and Sue and told us that they were friends of Bubble's owner and had even met her a few years previously on a visit to Tasmania.

"We would like to adopt Bubble and take her back to Adelaide with us", they told us.

What a moment! So, it turns out that Bubble wasn't orphaned after all!

Steve and Sue started the adoption process over the phone and got to work sorting out Bubble's travel arrangements to her new city.

A week or two later, Steve and Sue arrived in Hobart for their friend's memorial, giving them the opportunity to visit Ten Lives and be reunited with the little cat they hadn't seen in years.

And, what a reunion it was! Bubble nestled into Steve's arms as the three of them posed for a photo for us. The warmest of reunions for Steve and Sue, whose friend's memory will now live on in a grey and white girl named Bubble.

Well, the cat courier picked up Bubble and she went on her way to her new home in South Australia. A journey to her new life in the loving care of Steve and Sue in their home in Adelaide.

Thank you Steve and Sue, and we wish you and Bubble all the best!



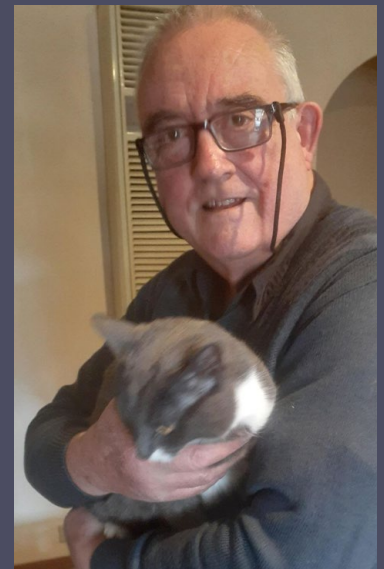
*Bubble waiting patiently for her new family to fly down.
PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives*

AN UPDATE ON BUBBLE (Thanks Sue!)

At first none of the cats were too happy about each other, Bubble was not going to put up with anything after all that travelling and upheaval, and there was much hissing and swiping in the early couple of days, but once they all worked out that everyone was going to stay they started to get used to each other. It was helpful that Bubble had her blanket because we put it in various places until we tried the dining chair, which she liked, so she found “her” spot.

Bubble has explored all over the house and likes window sills, and sitting on a chair with us when we are watching TV. She likes sitting on the back of the chairs too. Our cat Angus sleeps on our bed at night and Bubble thought that was a reasonable idea, so she has a pat with us then sleeps not far from Angus!

Recently she has been leaping about, chasing imaginary mice, jumping in the air, pouncing at nothing, and stalking a plastic straw our grandchildren were playing with. I took this display of cat joy as a sign that she is happy! She also enjoys playing with and being patted by the grandchildren. She is a lovely little cat with a ready purr!



Ten Lives cares for thousands of cats every year. We rely on support from people just like you continue to provide care to cats in need.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP...

Open your heart and home to become a foster carer at tenlives.com.au/foster
 Bring your skills to Ten Lives and become a volunteer at tenlives.com.au/volunteer
 Check out our current cats and kittens awaiting adoption at tenlives.com.au/adopt
 Support us by making a donation to the centre at tenlives.com.au/donate

The Ten Lives Building Project will deliver a world class facility and education programs to support both cats and the community in Tasmania.

DONATE



Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt showing Nicole and Peter Ryan the finished laundry.
PHOTO: Alisha Tams, Ten Lives

Paddy Wagon rocks up for the Blues Brothers



ARTICLE BY: Joel Diprose, Ten Lives

When Dave asks, the local community gives! Nicole and Peter Ryan from the Paddy Wagon Hotel and Bistro in Glenorchy generously donated \$1,000 to our Laundry Blues Appeal.

“People have been fantastic with their support, in fact the pubs of the Northern Suburbs have been incredible!” Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan said. “We really appreciate it.”

No strangers to the organisation, Nicole and Peter adopted their

‘therapy cat’ Bliss from Ten Lives, who “is a beautiful cat with a wonderful temperament”.

Nicole and Peter, along with their patrons at the Paddy Wagon, regularly fundraise for local charities and give back to the community wherever they can.

Every dollar donated to Ten Lives goes directly to the care of the cats, or the cause it is being raised for - in this case our laundry upgrade. We welcome all donors to visit to see how their money is making a difference!



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.

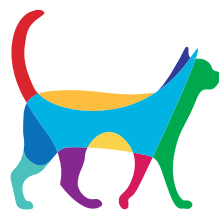
There are many ways you and your business can donate to Ten Lives:

tenlives.com.au/donate



Secret Santa sorted.

The Ten Lives Shop stocks a great range of gifts for cats and cat lovers alike. Check out our latest cat-themed giftware in store! Give the gift that gives twice - all funds raised from our shop stay right here at Ten Lives so your purchase helps a kitty in need this Christmas!



TenLives

2022 FUNDRAISING CALENDAR

Available Now!

THE TEN LIVES TIMES

www.tenlives.com.au

YOUR FELINE'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER

- Since 1949

HOBART CAT RECEIVES SHOCK VET BILL

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives

Local resident, Pumpkin, got the shock of his life on Thursday 14th October, when he was discharged from the Ten Lives Hospital.

His life changing surgery may have gone without a hitch but the shock that followed nearly landed him back on the operating table with a kitty heart attack.

'As I left the hospital the staff handed me an envelope which I presumed was some information about my follow up care', Pumpkin told reporters.

'But when I opened it I found a bill for over \$1,500!'

Pumpkin, who is currently unemployed, is unsure how he will be settling the bill with Ten Lives.

.....

Okay, that's not quite how the story went, and just to clarify, Ten Lives has not been handing out invoices to our feline patients!

So what does happen when a cat like Pumpkin arrives at Ten Lives needing specialist care?

8 month old Pumpkin has had a rather rocky start. He was found at the front of a house with a horrific injury to his back leg.

The kind people that discovered him promptly took him to AHVEC where he was treated after hours. With no microchip or owners coming forward he was transferred to our Ten Lives hospital.

Although we will never know what happened to Pumpkin, when our vet staff inspected the injury they found his back foot had been degloved, possibly from getting tangled up in some wire. The injury was gruesome.

Pumpkin was in a great deal of pain. Despite all we could do there wasn't any hope in saving the limb so the Ten Lives Vet Team had to intervene.

Though, this is a story with a happy ending.

Pumpkin was administered anaesthetic drugs before being intubated and transferred to the



operating table where the Vet Team were able to successfully remove the leg.

For our amazing Vet Team, it's just another day in the life – for Pumpkin, it's a new beginning.

After just one day in the Ten Lives adoption rooms he found his furever home. Someone clearly knew that having only 3 legs was not going to hold this kitty back!

No, we didn't hand Pumpkin the bill at the end of his stay! At Ten Lives there is no limit to the time or cost we invest to ensure a cat gets to live a happy and healthy life in their furever home.

The Ten Lives Vet Team are equipped to deal with cases like Pumpkin's onsite. This means that the costs associated with a procedure like this are limited to the vet time, anaesthetic drugs, theatre costs such as sterilisation equipment, oxygen, suture material, and also post op medications and care. Though, for more complicated procedures we have to bear the costs of sending patients offsite.

For a procedure like Pumpkin's the surgery costs can quickly surpass \$1,500. That's why we created the Vital & Emergency Treatment Supporters Club. Members of our V.E.T.S. Club help provide ongoing medical care for the thousands of cats and kittens who come to Ten Lives each year.

Members of our Vital & Emergency Treatment Supporters Club help provide medical care for cats just like Pumpkin. V.E.T.S. Club members also receive member benefits such as exclusive access to life in the Ten Lives vet room, monthly updates and feature stories, shop discounts, and a behind the scenes tour.

Because Ten Lives receives no government funding we count on contributions from people just like you.

JOIN V.E.T.S. CLUB NOW at tenlives.com.au/donate/vets-club



Paula enjoying a cuddle with her Passport pal, Limony.
PHOTO: Rich East, Ten Lives

Paula's Support Means The World For Cats Like Limony

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives

Paula Woodward has been a long term supporter of the work that Ten Lives does, and it seems she finds every opportunity to help out.

One such way she offers her generous support is by getting involved in our Passport Program. Subscribers get to choose a kitty and each month they receive updates in the form of a 'pet passport' that is mailed to them.

On a recent visit, Paula took the opportunity to meet her Passport Kitty, Limony, for herself.

Gentle natured Limony came to Ten Lives as a stray so his history is unknown to us.

One thing that was clear to us was that he needed a quiet home where he could shine.

After 40 days in the adoption rooms Limony found his forever home, and there he did shine.

For Paula, it's another happy ending and next month she will be able to support a new kitty in need.



Passport Program

Join our Passport Program and receive:

- Your choice of a cat to sponsor
- A monthly hardcopy 'passport' sent to you
- Updates from your sponsor Kitty

Your monthly sponsorship will help us to feed and house a kitty at our shelter.

If you are unable to adopt a cat, but would like to have a cat in your life subscribe to the Ten Lives Cat Centre's Passport Program today.

tenlives.com.au/donate



*Kitten season is upon Ten Lives again, and we desperately need your help.
PHOTOS: Rich East, Ten Lives*

Do You Have What It Takes To Become A Ringworm Foster Carer?

ARTICLE BY: Georgie Gallagher, Ten Lives

As we find ourselves at the beginning of another long kitten season we take a minute to regroup and prepare ourselves for the season ahead. Come October we see the first waves of neonatal kittens arrive at Ten Lives along with strays and surrenders that desperately need our help. As we see our total cats in care skyrocket it is absolutely vital that Ten Lives has a solid foster network to provide the essential care to these cats before they are ready to enter the adoption rooms.

Foster carers open up their hearts and their homes to provide temporary shelter for kitties that require their care. Ten Lives provides all vet care, food, bedding, toys, and of course 24 hour support.

But, what most people might not realise is that there are many types of foster carers each with their own different strengths and skills.

New foster carers are assigned healthy cats that require simple care, an adult cat that requires a break from the adoption rooms or a small litter of healthy kittens. Though, as they continue on their foster journey they may put their hands up for more challenging cases. This may include a cat that is unwell, a litter of fluey kittens, or even neonatal cases. Training is provided for every step along the way.

No matter which case a foster carer takes on or how often they are able to put their hand up to take a cat, each carer is crucial to

the work that Ten Lives does.

Though, as you can imagine, some types of carers are harder to come by than others. One such is our incredible ringworm carers.

Ringworm is a highly contagious fungal condition that presents as skin lesions that look like red or grey crustiness on the skin. If a cat is unhealthy or has a compromised immune system they are susceptible to picking up the spores from their environment and becoming infected.

So what does it take to be a ringworm foster carer?

Fostering cats with ringworm can be a real challenge. It is also vital to their successful recovery.

Along with administering daily medication, twice weekly baths are also required to help clear the infection. This can take a minimum of 6 weeks for each cat. Careful attention needs to be made in ensuring their bedding

and blankets are washed routinely. Homes that foster ringworm cases need to have an area set aside without carpet that can easily be cleaned.

It's also important to note that homes with other cats, young children, the elderly, or those with compromised immune systems are not appropriate to foster ringworm kitties.

It's because of these requirements that out of all of our 200+ foster carers only 5 are currently enlisted to care for ringworm cases. The reality is that for Ten Lives to be successful in assisting all the kitties that need our help that number needs to be 20.

How you can help:

Ten Lives Cat Centre is unique in that it's Tasmania's largest and most respected dedicated cat shelter. Ten Lives is on the front line of cat care in Tasmania, reducing animal suffering, and in the protection of our precious wildlife. Ten Lives is also in our schools creating real social change in how people care for

cats and protect our wildlife.

For our essential foster carers that join the Ten Lives foster family there is immense joy and reward in caring for a cat and seeing them through to finding a home to call their own.

If you are willing to take up the challenge of becoming a foster carer then we desperately need your help. And, if you are able to provide care for ringworm cases we currently have a 'wait list' of ringworm kitties who urgently need your support.

Visit tenlives.com.au/foster for information on applying to become a foster carer.

If you are not in a position to be able to foster a cat in need please consider sponsoring a kitty by joining our Passport Program or by joining our V.E.T.S Club. Find all the information at tenlives.com.au/donate.

Thank you for your support!



Richmond Cat Management Community Project

An update on our important Richmond community efforts.

ARTICLE BY: Noel Hunt, Ten Lives

In 2020 we launched a community project at Richmond due to the high number of cats and kittens being brought into Ten Lives from the area.

The pilot program aimed to provide a proactive and holistic approach, and to move beyond the shelter to tackle cat management.

Two years on, we are making very positive progress with what we now call 'The Richmond Process.'

Richmond was identified as a hotspot for unwanted and stray cats based on intake data from prior years. Ten Lives had the benefit of being a key partner on the Bruny Island Project with others including federal and state government (DPIPWE), Kingborough Council, Bruny Island Farming, NRM South, conservation groups, business, and the general community. Ten Lives had also worked supporting Kingborough Council on projects at Baronia Beach and Blackmans Bay to protect penguin rookeries.

We mapped all of our cat intake data onto Google Maps. This highlighted that there were several areas in Southern Tasmania where we had a large, concentrated number of cats and kittens being brought into our care. We call these areas Hotspots.

We chose Richmond as our first area to use the research and knowledge we gained from Bruny as our experience told us that the Richmond people would be very supportive of programs that would improve their community, environment, and animal welfare.

This proved to be true on many levels. The way the community got behind Ten Lives as a self funded animal charity was amazing; not only to help with many aspects of the project but with raising funds as well! Look at the Richmond



Caught on camera: A stray cat sniffs around one of the traps set up as part of a targeted trapping program. Trapping is just one part of the holistic approach to The Richmond Process.



Open Garden fundraiser reported earlier in this Scratching Post.

Our holistic approach included significant community consultation including surveys, leaflet drops and simply walking the streets and talking to the locals to understand their views and concerns on cat management. Camera surveys with infrared cameras provided by DPIWE was another way we gathered data to get a baseline of the extent of the problem and opportunities to improve on our triple bottom line of helping people, the planet... and pussycats.

We needed to support a number of people that had particular challenges with too many cats by making sure that they could have some healthy, vaccinated, and desexed cats to take into their care.

We have been promoting microchipping, particularly before any trapping of feral and stray cats occurred, and we gave the community access to a free microchipping day at the Community Hall.

With the Richmond Process in its second year we engaged with the community once again. Alongside Landcare Tasmania we carried out two information sessions in July, one in Richmond and one in Campania. Ten Lives was one of 5 speakers addressing how to take better responsibility for cats in the community and the impact of feral cats have on agriculture and the environment.

The Richmond folks have been great. They have brought in unwanted litters and stray cats. A dedicated team of volunteers have carried out

targeted trapping in problem areas that were identified by our own data and the camera surveys.

This has allowed us to do what we love doing best; finding homes for all the rehomingable cats and kittens no matter how long or how much it costs us.

All of these activities look to have been effective, but key to the project success is education. Specific education and support were provided to members of the community to deal with the complex issue of feeding stray cats. This was well received.

Education is a vital aspect of the holistic approach to the Richmond Process. Ten Lives education team has provided access to our Edu.Cat Program to local schools. The aim is to make a generational change in the way the community take responsibility of cats, the community, and the environment.

With very encouraging results from the Richmond Process to date, we will look to all levels of government for greater involvement and support for Richmond, and the ongoing rollout of hotspot projects.

Over the summer we will continue to maintain activities to ensure we sustain the improvements that have been made. We will also consult with the community for their feedback on the achievements to date.

Working together we are making a difference.

On the ground in Richmond: community consultation including surveys, leaflet drops and simply walking the streets and talking to the locals was an important aspect of the project.



Tim Triumphs in Taking on Test and Tag



Ten Lives Volunteer Tim McDougall has taken up the challenge of gaining accreditation to Test and Tag electrical appliances arriving at our Op Shops.

ARTICLE & PHOTOS BY: Rich East, Ten Lives

Until recently, our Op Shops in North Hobart and Margate were required to have warning labels attached to electrical goods stating that the item had not been tested.

Tim, who has been volunteering with Ten Lives since April 2019, completed the two-day Testing and Tagging course offered by TAFE Tasmania and successfully passed the final assessment.

Ten Lives purchased a handheld appliance tester (pictured below) for Tim to work with. The device is capable of completing a 3-stage test to ensure an appliance is safe to put on the shelves in the shop.

With electrical safety a big concern when it comes to secondhand goods, our Op Shops can now assure customers they are purchasing products that are safe to use and safe for their homes.

Thank you to Tim for taking on this project and for the value its added to our Op Shops. We also thank Tim for his ongoing contribution in volunteering at the Margate Op Shop and for applying his invaluable IT skills at the Centre.

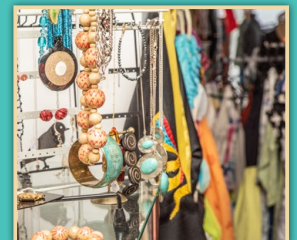
Some of our safely tagged items available.



What will you find at our Op Shops?

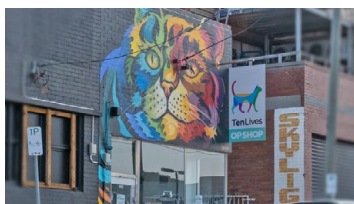
All these funky items were recently discovered and purchased at our North Hobart or Margate Op Shop.

1. Portmans sleeveless top featuring black cat motif - \$5
2. Nintendo Wii complete with collection of 14 games - \$85
3. Disney Cats shirt by Pull & Bear - \$7
4. Hand painted 1958 FC Holden - \$25
5. Vinyl album Rod Stewart: Never A Dull Moment - \$12
6. Rare Homer Simpson illustrated bowling ball - \$100
7. The Australian Weekly Magazine: Beatles Cover (July 1964) - \$6
8. Vintage Singer manual hand-crank sewing machine with bentwood case and decals - \$350
9. Silver cat ring - \$20
10. Cat nesting doll - \$10
11. 1968 Mattel 1002 The World of Barbie Doll Case - \$30
12. Assorted jewellery & accessories



What's waiting for you in store?

The Ten Lives Op Shop Instagram is a treasure trove of retro delights. Check out more at [@tenlivesopshop](#) or visit our North Hobart and Margate Stores to browse for yourself!



The Ten Lives Op Shops are traditional op shops which raise much-needed funds for the Centre.

Ten Lives is a completely self-funded animal welfare charity. We see a cat or kitten coming through our doors every half hour in kitten season and will see over 10,000 vet procedures performed every year. Our Op Shops are central in raising the funds needed to achieve this.

But forgetting this important work for a moment – our Op Shops are simply great fun to come and rummage for that unique find or great bargain! We hope you will find them welcoming spaces for browsing and purchasing preloved items, interacting with and adopting cats, and learning about Ten Lives and the responsible care of cats.

Visit us at:

1717 Channel Highway, Margate (03 6144 6539)
222 Argyle Street, North Hobart (03 6144 6533)



Find out more or apply to be a Volunteer at one of our Ten Lives Op Shops tenlives.com/op-shop

Huckle's Holiday Hideaway

Home Away From Home

ARTICLE BY: Rich East, Ten Lives



Happy Huckle greets his hoomin Julie, and gets ready to go home after his mini-holiday in boarding. PHOTOS: Rich East, Ten Lives

It's always great to see old friends return to the Ten Lives Boarding facility, and Huckle is no exception.



As many of you may remember, Huckle didn't originally arrive at Ten Lives as a boarder. In 2020, Huckle was adopted by volunteer, Julie Nedich, who was involved in his rehabilitation after his arrival at the Centre with substantial trauma to his head.

Nowadays, Julie books Huckle into the five-paw accommodation boarding at Ten Lives when she can't be with him. There he receives all the care and attention he requires to make for a happy and content cat while Julie is away.

"They always spoil him here and send me photos of how he's doing."

The Ten Lives boarding accommodation provides comfortable individual rooms that are furnished with a multilevel design with lots of room for your cat to stretch their legs and climb.

Consider Ten Lives the next time your cat needs boarding!

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 st Cat		\$20 PER NIGHT
2 nd Cat (SAME ROOM)	+	\$15 PER NIGHT
3 rd /4 th Cat (SAME ROOM)	+	\$12 PER NIGHT
Medication	+	\$3 PER NIGHT PER CAT

A Q&A with Fabulous Frith

*MAIN PHOTO: Frith working on a layout for the Scratching Post. PHOTO: Alisha Tams, Ten Lives
INSET: Edu.Cat board game designed by Frith.*

Frith Williams is one of the extremely talented team of Creative Volunteers here at Ten Lives. Frith assists in the production of our printed and digital marketing along with using her talent as a graphic designer to produce such things as educational games!

How long have you been volunteering with Ten Lives and what role do you volunteer in?

I've been volunteering with Ten Lives for about 2 years as a Creative Assistant on Saturdays.

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

Often I'm found doing social media posts and chatting to visitors, but I also assist with designing the Scratching Post and other Ten Lives' printed media.



Why did you decide to volunteer with Ten Lives?

I LOVE cats! Also, I was keen to get involved in charitable work, giving back to my community. This position came up and it fit me to a tee!

When I'm not at Ten Lives I'm normally...

I work a full time job during the week with an emphasis on marketing and graphic design, but I relax by drawing, painting, playing Nintendo and razzing up my two adorable, hilarious, and energetic Bengals.

Favourite fictional cat?

Richard Parker from Life of Pi by Yann Martel.

What would you tell someone who was thinking about adopting a cat?

Spend time with each of the cats and find one who really fits in with your personality and lifestyle. They will be with you for many years, as part of your family, it is worth taking the time to find the right furbaby that suits both you and the cat.

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



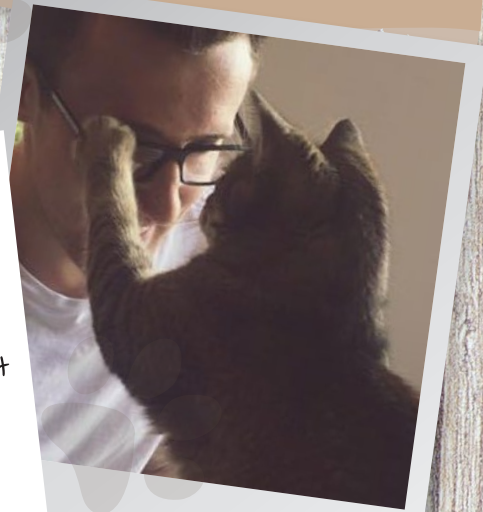
ROXY



GATSBY

"Roxy (white) and Gatsby were adopted a year apart from one another (Roxy June 2020, Gatsby June 2021). We adopted Roxy after losing one of our other cats and didn't look back once, we adopted Gatsby because we moved house and had room for another one. Both Roxy and Gatsby settled in so quickly. They were hesitant around each other at first but are now best friends and spend lots of time cuddling when we are not looking. I sleep with one of them on my chest and the other on my hip every night. Roxy and Gatsby enjoy going outside and walking on their harness together, as well as using their litters and eating at the same time too. They have their own blankets on the couch but you can often find them cuddling together on one of them. Roxy is a year older but they still play together and have a great time doing it!"

- Sara, Roxy & Gatsby's hoomin. Adopted Jun 2020 & Jun 2021



TYRAN

"Mr Tyran was just 8 weeks when I first adopted and he had a wild and also cosy personality. For the past 5 years he has comforted me through a personal journey of mental health healing and he has been with me and looked after me every step of the way. He is one of the best things that has ever happened to me. It was an instant bonding, he came and found me in the cat room at Ten Lives and from then on, I knew he would fit in with me."

- Luke, Tyran's hoomin. Adopted Aug 2016



MISO

"Our first cat passed away after 16 years together, we were so devastated we waited 2 years before looking for another cat. We had been looking for about five months when we met 'Fuzzy' (now Miso). We knew right away that she was the cat for our family. She was confident, got on well with children, was harness trained and was the sweetest little cat we'd met. When we got Miso home we took her to a nice quiet place and opened her pet carrier. She stepped right out of the pet carrier with such confidence as if to say 'this is my new home'. She knew immediately that this is where she belonged."

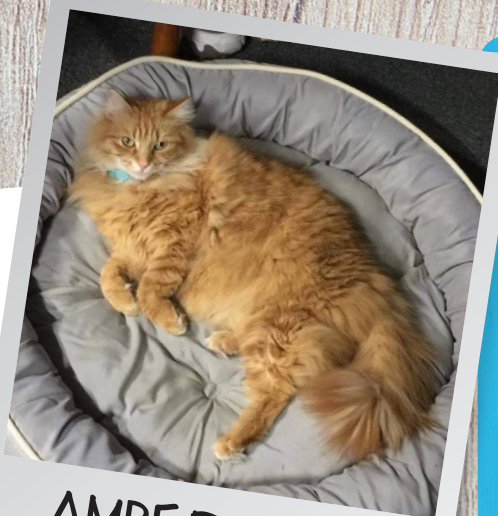
- Etta & Amina, Miso's hoomins. Adopted Oct 2018

"We visited one day knowing that we maybe wanted to get one kitten... we left with two, including Tobias!
We call him Possum because his fur and markings look like a possum. My husband is allergic to cats and never used to be that keen on them... Tobias loves him to bits, follows him everywhere and waits outside the bedroom door for him in the morning. Now they are best friends."
- Christie, Tobias' hoomin.
Adopted Apr 2021



TOBIAS

"I was feeling lost not having a fur baby after my dog passed away. My daughter adopted Amber as a surprise for me. Amber was very frightened to start with and spent most of her time hiding in my mattress. After a few weeks she started to settle down and her favourite place was sleeping in my dearly departed dog's bed or sleeping by the fire. Amber has settled in well but it has taken quite a while. She now happily sleeps on my bed."
- Tracy, Amber's hoomin. Adopted Sept 2020



AMBER



BIBI

 bibikitty21

"I had been looking for a black cat for about 6 months and loved the idea of adopting an older cat. I saw Bibi on both Facebook and Instagram and loved her! My daughter and I came to see her on 1st May and knew straight away that she should come home with us!
Bibi was very curious about her new home but very friendly and affectionate from day 1. She has settled in beautifully (she stays indoors) and loves snuggles. She sleeps beside me in her own kitty bed at night. We love her to bits!"
- Sue, Bibi's hoomin. Adopted May 2021



NIAMH

"It was love at first sight.
Niamh settled in straight away. She loves her dog brother and he loves her, they play and sleep together. Niamh is very affectionate and purrs non-stop."
- Patricia, Niamh's hoomin.
Adopted Jul 2021

Are You Part of It?

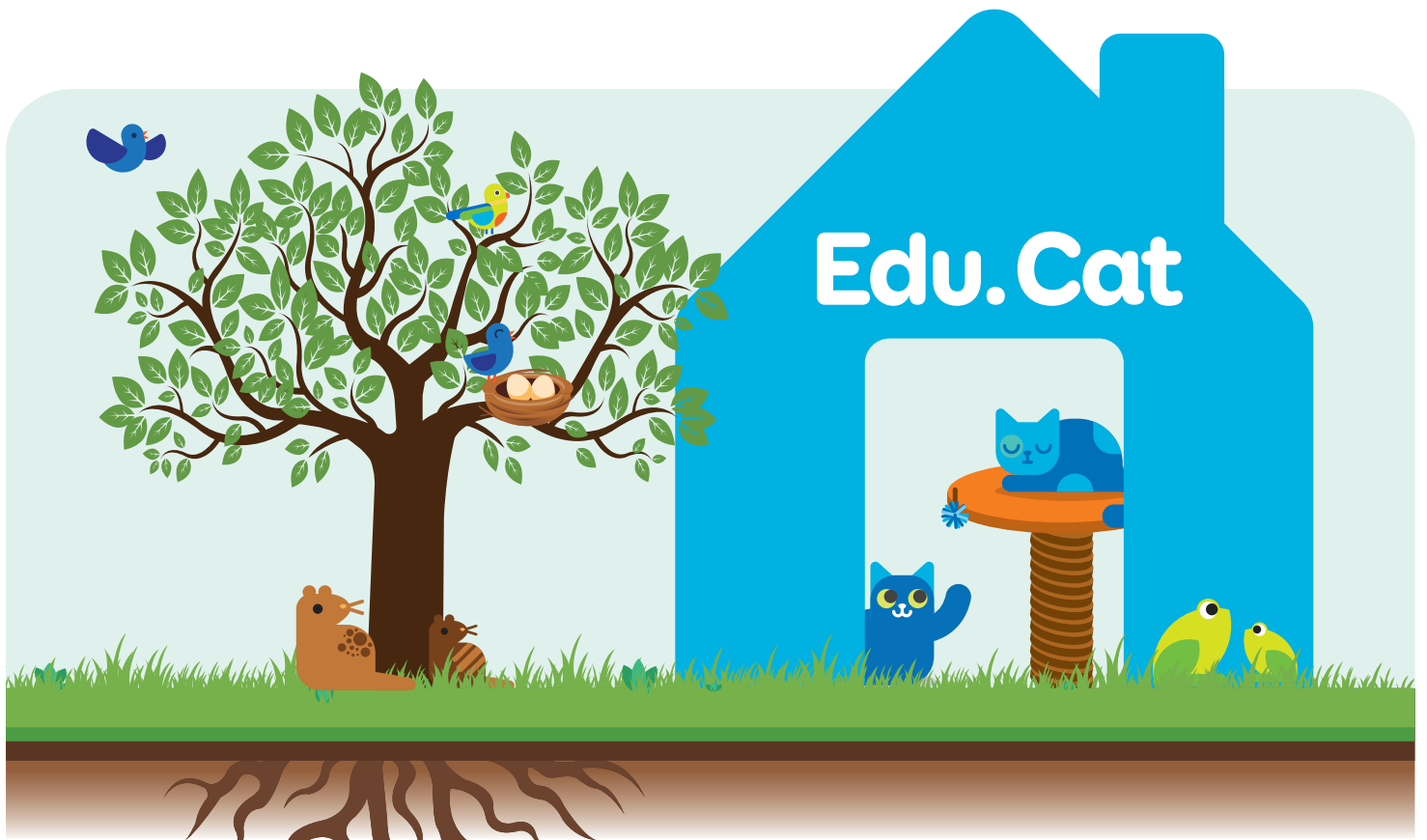
How has YOUR Ten Lives kitty settled into their forever home? We'd love an update!

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.





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

