

scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Winter 2023

Herbie's Happy Ending:

The love bug finds
his forever home

ALSO: TRADIES FOR TABBIES ∴ COMMUNITY & EDUCATION ∴ ADOPTION UPDATES



Cover

Model: Herbie
Photographer: Rachael Daniels

Herbie came into the care of Ten Lives on the 16th of January 2023 when he was approximately one year old. Herbie presented with a thick discharge and inflamed third eyelids. He had bilateral eye ablation surgery and went to foster care to recover. Once returning to the shelter he spent four weeks in adoptions before finding his forever home on the 4th of March. Find out more about Herbie's story on Page 6!



Herbie in January 2023

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



Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt with Jo Palmer MLC who came to see the progress with the building project

Manager's Muse

Welcome to the Winter 2023 edition of the Scratching Post.

At Ten Lives, we believe that every cat deserves a forever home where they can live happily and comfortably without fear or pain. This principle is at the heart of the stories in this edition of the Scratching Post, from Herbie's heartwarming journey to Tammy's road to recovery and our long-term office kitties Sam and Donald.

We also have an exciting building project update along with the Master Builders Tasmania Tradies for Tabbies initiative, where local businesses have generously stepped in to lend a helping hand. Their support and contributions are instrumental in creating a safe and comfortable environment for our feline friends.

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers work tirelessly to improve the welfare of cats and kittens in Southern Tasmania, and we couldn't do it without the generous support of people like you.

Thank you for your invaluable support in making these achievements possible, we hope you find great joy in reading about them in this edition of the Scratching Post.

- Noel Hunt, Manager

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We're building them a brighter future...

Can they **COUNT ON** your support?



MAIN PHOTO: The new pods on the Eastern side of the building.
INSET: Progress of the new pods being built.



Building Project Update

ARTICLE BY: Noel Hunt

We are getting very close to realising the benefits of our building project... and we are excited!

I am sure you share our frustration with the unavoidable pandemic delays to our build. But now we are about to see some significant benefits to improve the way we work and how we can continue to provide the best possible care for our cats.

We have two buildings on our fence line at lock up stage built by Podmatrix. You will read in another article in The Scratching Post about the Master Builders

Tasmania Tradies for Tabbies community project, where generous businesses have contributed their services free of charge for work on the older parts of the building. Thanks again to Lyden Builders, Howrah Plumbing, Parr Air, Tanttell Painters and InnerSpace.

A couple of new rooms going up mightn't sound that exciting.

But it is!

The work that is not too far from completion will provide two major improvements for the care of our cats. It will be pretty handy for our people too; particularly our Foster Care Team.

We currently use an old rented donga as a vet consultation room. It is dark, dingy and hard to heat. Not the greatest area for our cats. Also, foster carers have to wait outside in the elements for their appointments. Not the greatest of Tassie winter pastimes.

The new consult area is bright with plenty of light and windows for the cats and kittens to look out. Well ventilated with great air conditioning, a perfect place for low stress handling of our cats and kittens and plenty of room for the vet team to work.

The second exciting improvement is that one of the new buildings will be two new wards of our vet hospital. Again

bigger and brighter and more comfortable for our cats. Even better, this will mean that two wards in the existing vet hospital can be converted to areas for our longer term patients such as cats and kittens with ringworm. Some cats undertaking longer term treatments like ringworm can be difficult to get into foster care. A space that offers comfortable and roomy cat condos with window views makes the long stay more comfortable, low stress, and with plenty of enrichment.

We are thrilled that with all of the support of our tradies, donors and supporters like you, part of the broader team Ten Lives, that these wonderful improvements are in sight. Thank you.

Ten Lives would like to thank the following local businesses for their support of our Building Project:



THE LOVE BUG



Herbie is a remarkable cat who captured the hearts of everyone who met him. This one-year-old tabby and white boy had severely diseased eyes when he arrived at Ten Lives.

He required an operation to remove his eyes to give him the best chance at a happy and healthy life. Nevertheless, Herbie did not let his impairment hamper his zest for living. He adjusted to his blindness in the shelter while he waited for a kind soul to take him home.

Herbie soon acclimatised to his new environment in the shelter. The staff noticed that he had an exceptional sense of smell and hearing, which allowed him to navigate his surroundings with ease. He would use his whiskers to determine the contours of his enclosure, and he learnt to memorise the location of his food bowl and litter box through repetition.



Herbie's lack of sight did not diminish his playful spirit either. He would entertain himself by batting around toys or playing with a feather tikkler. He developed a particular fondness for toys with bells in them since he could locate them quickly, and appeared to be watching them despite his lack of vision!

While Herbie adapted well to shelter life, the staff and volunteers knew that he would thrive in a loving home. They were also aware that blind cats often have difficulty finding forever homes since people wrongly believe they will be too much of a burden. The volunteers knew that Herbie was a unique and delightful cat who deserved to find a family who would recognise his worth.

Herbie's photos and story created a buzz on Facebook and Instagram. The posts about Herbie attracted a lot of engagement on social media, and people began enquiring about him. However, we needed to make sure

they were the perfect match for Herbie. They would ideally need to live in a quiet home with no other pets and have the time to help Herbie slowly settle into his new home.

Finally after a month in the adoption rooms, he met his forever human, Felicity. She had fallen in love with his personality, and his blindness was never a factor in her decision to adopt him. She could provide the safe, secure and loving home environment that Herbie needed.

"Herbie spent his first day exploring the room. Moving slowly around, jumping at the walls and learning every nook and cranny. He didn't want any attention for the first couple of hours." Felicity said.

"Since getting to know me, he's retracted his claws unless he's playing. He loves to lie on my lap and can lie there all day if I let him. He also loves chasing toys with a scrunch noise. Or anything small enough to pick up with his paws. He sits on the hearth when I'm in the kitchen and follows me around the house. He even sat on my chair the other day demanding a cuddle as I was a bit later than usual. He really likes my dressing gown and oodie - kneading them before he settles down."

"As someone who lives a quiet lifestyle, I love his company and his cuddles."

Herbie is a testament to the resilience of animals, particularly those with disabilities. Despite losing his sight, he adapted to his limitations and remained his playful and affectionate self. His story is a reminder that adopting pets with special needs can not only be rewarding but will also give them the chance to live fulfilling and happy lives.





Tradies for Tabbies Launch: (L-R) Andrew and Lee-Anne Lyden of Lyden Builders, Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan, Ian Blaauw and Cathy McDowell of Howrah Plumbing and Matthew Pollock CEO Master Builders Tasmania



Lyden Builders have created a new doorway from the main reception area to the new vet consult room

Tradies for Tabbies



Tradies for Tabbies is a fantastic initiative from Master Builders Tasmania who have decided very generously to encourage their members to volunteer.

The Ten Lives Cat Centre facility in New Town needs help to prepare our existing buildings in preparation for the Building Project, which will expand the shelter.

“It’s so incredible to have companies who put their resources on the line for a project like this, and it’s something that I’ve enjoyed over the years –

bringing people together and doing some amazing community projects.” Ten Lives Ambassador, Dave Noonan, said. “Hopefully Tradies for Tabbies is something that goes on for years, because there will be a never-ending list of things that need to be done here at Ten Lives!”

“This is about the construction industry giving back to the community and supporting the great work that the Ten Lives Cat Centre does.” Matthew Pollock CEO of Master Builders Tasmania said. “We hope to encourage more Master Builders members and other participants in the construction industry to come and help out and support this great work.”

Lyden Builders were the first to put their hand up to join the community project.

“Dave rings up and we respond – he’s very good at organising these sort of things!” Andrew Lyden, Director of Lyden Builders said, “It’s always important to try to find a bit of time to put aside for the betterment of the community. It’s very important for us.”

Howrah Plumbing is another local company who has jumped on board early.

“This is a unique situation where you have to fix one part of the building to get to the next part of the building.” Cath McDowell of Howrah Plumbing said, “I thought it was a good project to be involved in and a good way to give back to the community.”

Ten Lives is amazed at the response to and support of the project still in its early stages.

“We’ve been overwhelmed by the generosity of the people who have stepped up to support the vital work that we have to do.” said Ten Lives Manager, Noel Hunt. “Master Builders Tasmania, Lyden Builders, Howrah Plumbing and Parr’s Heat Pump Centre; it’s really excellent that people have come on board to support us.”

He added, “As little as one hour to help put a shelf up to something more substantial, every little bit helps. This project is just fantastic and is making a big difference for Ten Lives, not only the work that we do with cats, but also the work we do with the environment and in the community.”

“This is about the construction industry giving back to the community and supporting the great work that the Ten Lives Cat Centre does.”

- Matthew Pollock,
CEO, Master Builders
Tasmania



Howrah Plumbing moving some pipes to make way for the new pods to be built



Lyden Builders making a doorway between reception and the new vet consult room



Parr's Heat Pump Centre donated and installed a heat pump for the new vet consult room

Sponsor Spotlight



Project 1

The first project for the Tradies for Tabbies initiative is building a new vet consult room to allow us to remove the final temporary building to make way for the next phase of the Building Project.

Ten Lives is grateful to the businesses who have jumped on board early to donate their goods and services to the project. We would like to thank the following local businesses for their contribution so far:

Lyden Builders

Lyden Builders is an award-winning building company with a focus on customer service, originality and innovation. They are proudly Tasmanian owned and operated.

Lyden Builders design & build homes throughout Hobart & southern Tasmania.

Andrew Lyden, Director of Lyden Builders said: "The staff out here are amazing. It takes a lot of dedication to give your time up

for the feline community, people are amazing with how much time and effort they put in."

"This is a very underfunded service that [Ten Lives] provides out here and anything I can do to help Dave help the rest is good."

Howrah Plumbing

Established in 1982, Howrah Plumbing has over 40 years of experience that they are passing on to the next generation of plumbers, employing 49 Tasmanians.

Cath McDowell, Managing director of Howrah Plumbing said: "The networking opportunities that we've got [through Tradies for Tabbies] with the other builders, we already work with Master Builders Tasmania in other areas of our business, to get some of our plumbers into areas that they wouldn't normally work on... we've had a few apprentices out here already working alongside plumbers - I think a couple of them may have taken cats home with them!"

Parr's Heat Pump Centre

Parr's Heat Pump Centre is southern Tasmania's leading air conditioning retail outlet. With well over 45 proud years in the operation, their dedication to customer service and quality products means they have established themselves as the trusted name in the industry.

Andre Morrisby, General Manager of Parr's said: "We've been involved with Ten Lives for the last 10 years almost. We've helped with servicing, maintenance, installation... we've got to keep those cats warm!"

InnerSpace Wardrobes

InnerSpace Wardrobes Tasmania are a proudly Tasmanian owned and family run business, who have been creating amazing spaces for over two decades.

"We're coming up with a storage solution for all the gear they need to put into storage. It will all be specifically designed for all the things they need to stash away in there." said Rosie Saville, Director

of InnerSpace Wardrobes Tasmania.

R&TL Tatnell Pty Ltd

R & TL Tatnell provides professional residential and commercial painting and decorating services, based in Hobart, Tasmania, and have been servicing the local community for over 30 years.

Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan has been a driving force in getting local business support for the Tradies for Tabbies community project.

"If anyone else wants to help out - sparkies, builders, anyone... some of the jobs are only an hour long, some might be a day. If you've got a bit of time and you'd like to contribute we'd really appreciate it." he said.

Find out more and get involved with the Master Builders Tasmania Tradies for Tabbies initiative at tenlives.com.au/tradies



A second chance for Tammy

PHOTO: Rachael Daniels / rachaelphotography.com

“I’m so grateful for Ten Lives, and everything they’ve done. It’s an absolutely amazing organisation, and I’ve been blown away by the support and generosity they’ve shown.”

- Amy, Tammy’s hoomin

Tammy arrived at Ten Lives in January 2022 as a frightened 1-year-old stray with a kitten of her own. Since then she has had x-rays and scans, and over 20 vet examinations. It didn’t take long for her to open up and now she is described as a quirky, affectionate, and sweet natured girl.

During her examinations, it was discovered that she had issues with both her knees resulting in her having trouble walking.

Without surgical intervention, Tammy would have suffered from the instability in her knee joints which would cause increasing pain.

Once Tammy was old enough and her skeleton had matured, the vet team determined that she was ready for these life-changing surgeries to go ahead.

Each knee would need to be remodelled on the operating table in a complex orthopaedic procedure that required a specialised team. Because of this, the surgery needed to be performed by a local vet hospital.

The cost for this was \$3,700 per knee. We started a crowdfunding campaign aiming to raise \$7,400 to cover the costs of both surgeries. Thanks to our wonderful supporters we exceeded the goal, raising \$8,821 which assisted with



her ongoing post-operative rehabilitation costs.

Tammy spent her recovery time between the shelter and in foster care. During this time she found her forever human, Amy.

“She was shy at first, but very friendly and sweet. Once she got used to her new home she opened up and started relaxing and kneading her favourite blanket (a scarf she found in my op shop donation pile), and within a few weeks she was never more than 1 metre from me and slept on my bed, snuggled behind my knees.” Amy said.

“When she got to know me, she really changed. She sat on my window ledge watching the birds and saying hello to my neighbours, and got the zoomies and was extremely cuddly when I came home from work. She was in a bit of pain in the lead

up to her surgery, but still played with her toys, and loved to chase shadows and play hockey with anything she could kick across the floor.”

Tammy needed to be confined during her recovery, with Amy saying that she had been an excellent patient.

“She’s been living in a crate for 10 weeks recovering from the surgeries, but has taken it in her stride, and has been an excellent patient and has recovered really well. I’ve made sure she can still lie in the sunny patch of the living room in the afternoons, and she’s got an excellent appetite.”

“She loves to curl up next to me on the couch in the evenings, has found her favourite hiding nooks and always keeps me company, whatever I’m doing. She loves meeting new people, and often steals my mohair blanket, but it

makes her so happy I don’t mind a bit!

Now that she’s healed up from her surgeries, she’s started to play again, even though she isn’t allowed to jump or run yet. Breakfast and dinner time are her favourite times of the day, and she welcomes me home with cuddles and is very chatty.”

Tammy’s story is another example of a cat overcoming adversity to go on to living a happy, healthy, pain-free life.

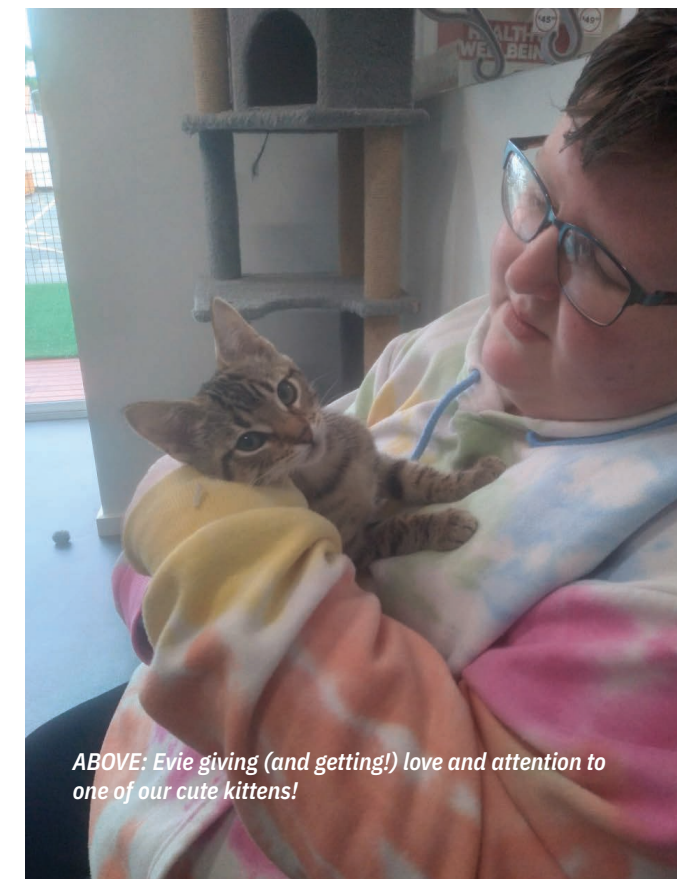
“She’s so funny, so affectionate and loving while still being a very independent little lady and an absolute weirdo. I absolutely adore her, and I can’t imagine life without my little sidekick. I’m so grateful for Ten Lives, and everything they’ve done. It’s an absolutely amazing organisation, and I’ve been blown away by the support and generosity they’ve shown.”



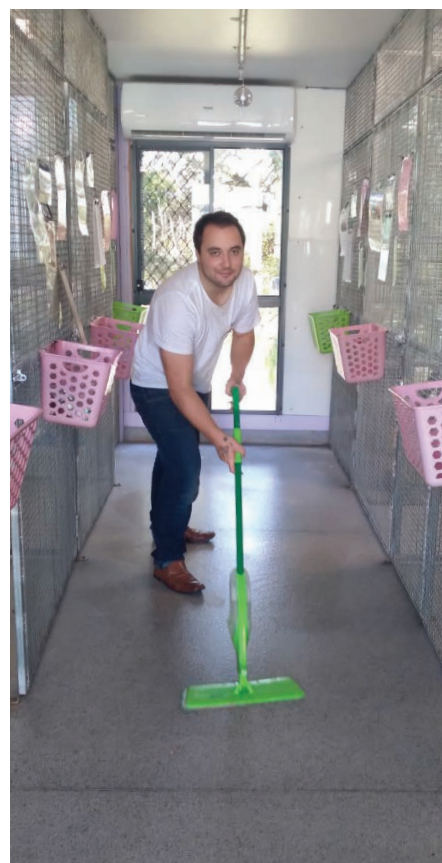
ABOVE: Happy Paws Happy Hearts trainer Sam with Gabe, Vanessa and Emma labelling the cat grass for Stormy, Peaches, Jemima and Tigger Franklin



ABOVE: Deb providing enrichment for the kittens while they wait for their forever homes



ABOVE: Evie giving (and getting!) love and attention to one of our cute kittens!



ABOVE: Gabe helping out with cleaning the adoption rooms

Feline Friends Unite: Happy Paws Happy Hearts and Ten Lives Team Up for a Greater Cause

ARTICLE BY: Rachel Horan, Happy Paws Happy Hearts.

Opening our doors in a new location can be a busy and sometimes stressful experience – much like when a cat is adopted into a new home. Finding yourself in an unfamiliar place and environment – where you don't know anything or anyone – can be a little scary at the best of times. But Ten Lives has 'adopted' Happy Paws Happy Hearts with open paws.

We are lucky to call their fantastic location our home, allowing us to work with the shelter cats and kittens of Tasmania in our group sessions. We have been graciously welcomed with

open arms, making the whole experience of integrating and settling into our new location as easy as possible.

For those who haven't met us, Happy Paws Happy Hearts is a registered charity and not-for-profit organisation on a mission to connect socially isolated people with shelter animals needing hands-on time. Our participants come from various backgrounds, including those experiencing mental health challenges and people living with a disability. We have a unique 'twist' on animal therapy; instead of bringing animals to socially

isolated people, we bring the people to the animals in need. In our programs, participants learn animal training and handling, connect with fellow animal lovers, develop new skills and confidence, and give back to the community and animal care facility meaningfully.

Since expanding from Brisbane, we are now in seven locations across Australia throughout Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory, and now, Tasmania. When we were on our search to find a 'purr-fect' location partner in Tasmania, guess who snuggled their way into our hearts? You guessed it – Ten Lives! The location fit us like a glove, aligning with our mission and core values, and we haven't looked back since.

The team at Ten Lives have so generously welcomed us into

their incredible shelter, where they help cats and kittens find their forever homes. We are so proud to be a part of that journey for these feline friends and are so grateful to have a location partner doing such incredible work in their community. We feel so supported and truly welcome in the location, as we start to get familiar with the lay of the land and who's who in the zoo. Our Trainer, Rhianna Peters, says that Ten Lives made the introduction incredibly easy, making her feel included and welcomed the entire way.

"The staff at Ten Lives have made getting to know the shelter super easy. They are always there to answer any questions I may have; they are always willing to lend a hand and make me feel so welcome and supported," Rhianna says.

"I absolutely love working with the people and cats at Ten Lives. They are all awesome and make coming to work every day so fun and rewarding. I enjoy knowing I'm helping the cats waiting for their forever homes as well as our participants in each session,"

Since opening our doors in Hobart just four months ago, we have welcomed 6 participants to the Happy Paws Happy Hearts community, with big plans to expand on the horizon! We welcome people from all walks of life – young and old – to our 'paw-some' group programs.

If you're curious to learn more about who we are or what we do, or you are interested in joining one of our programs, please reach out to our friendly enrolment team on 1300 077 984 or via our website – www.hphfoundation.org/contact-us



Volunteer Jeanette showing off the North Hobart Op Shop's wall of fame



Volunteer Gerard with the New Norfolk Op Shop's wall of fame

Op Shops proudly show off their 'Wall of Fame'

Our many astute bargain hunters and supporters of our fabulous Op Shops love to rummage around and find that great purchase.

But our Op Shop customers tell us they also really love popping in to visit our resident Op Shop cat that is patiently waiting for its forever home.

Whether it is at our Margate, 222 Argyle Street, or New Norfolk store, there is a cat or two enjoying the cat enclosures and cat tunnels, greeting the shoppers and supervising the volunteers in the shop.

Cats being at our Op Shops makes perfect sense as it reminds our customers and volunteers why the Op Shop is there and what it supports; a dedicated self-funded animal charity working to improve the lot of the cats and kittens in our community. We receive no government or local government funding so the Op Shops are a vital part of the way we stay a viable and sustainable organisation to continue our important work.

Sylvia, a long-term dedicated Ten Lives volunteer both at the shelter and now at 222, always says "I'm here for the cats". She

sure is! But her mantra highlights that there are very important cat welfare reasons why a cat may be at an Op Shop. So no, it isn't just for the cat's superior volunteer supervision skills.

Ten Lives care for 200 plus cats at any point in time. We have cats that have just arrived at the shelter that need assessing, cats in hospital being treated, cats being cared for and treated in foster care, cats in the vet surgery, and the ultimate aim, cats in the adoption area waiting to find their forever home. You get the idea; we have lots of

cats and kittens with broadly varying needs for which we are responsible.

Sometimes we have a cat that doesn't cope in the shelter with so many cats around. The Op Shops are another place where we can provide care to make these cats far more comfortable.

A happy cat is a healthy cat!

New Norfolk Op Shop volunteer, Gerard, says he loves volunteering his time to help the community, and having cats at the store make it extra special.

This sentiment is shared by long-term volunteer Robyn, who has been at the Margate Op Shop and before then Blackmans Bay, for over 20 years. Robyn has always had cats in her life and says helping the cats to be adopted is extra special.

The volunteers take their role looking after the kitties very seriously and they are rightfully proud when a cat is successfully adopted.

You can see from the photos in this article that there is a lot of joy with all the profile pictures of the successfully adopted cats proudly on display.

Jeanette is another long term dedicated volunteer. Jeanette even volunteered back in the day when we were located at our well known South Hobart premises.

Jeanette says adopting a cat into your family is an important decision and there are some processes in place to ensure the best possible result for the cat and the adopter. "We don't have people popping into the store for a coat and leaving with a cat on impulse."

A good discussion about the responsibilities and the particular cat's individual needs, along with a cooling off period has seen an excellent result in finding the perfect match.

So visit one of our Op Shops at Margate, 222 Argyle Street or New Norfolk, grab a bargain and say g'day to our team and resident cat!



Adoption day is the best day ever!



The Success of Sam

“To watch this soul who was so nervous and scared of everything become the outgoing, happy boy he is today is truly a privilege.”

- Susan, Sam's hoomin

When we last left Sam, he had just been adopted after 369 days in care and off to start his new life in his forever home with Susan.

During his time at Ten Lives, Sam had found himself in and out of foster care as he wasn't coping when he was brought into the adoption rooms. With the support of various foster carers, he slowly became more trusting, and his loving side shone through.

On returning from his last stint from foster care, Sam became the new office cat. The place of 'Office Cat' is reserved for cats that struggle with being in the

adoption rooms.

We're always excited to get updates on our kitties who have been adopted, especially when they have been long term kitties like Sam who took longer than most to find their forever home, as they can take a little longer to settle in and adjust to their new environment.

“When Sam first arrived we were a little tentative with each other. I don't think he truly recognised that I was his 'forever person'. Friendly enough but still quite self-contained. I had had him for around 4 weeks when I had to go away for an 8 day trip. I had my son come to Sammy (and



Main photo: Sam in his favourite spot on the Manager's desk. Inset: Sam's previous Scratching Post article. Above: Sam living his best life in his forever home.

chicken) sit. He said he barely saw him over that time. When I arrived home Sammy could not, would not leave me alone for a second!” Sam's hoomin Susan said.

“Sam has settled really well. After being initially very wary of visitors he now actively seeks out everyone who comes to visit. He brings out the big 'notice me' meow if not enough attention is given. It's almost as if he realises that anyone who comes to visit is friendly. He snuggles up in bed at night for cuddles, he always has a paw on me and will often rest his head in my hand. Sam still does not like to be picked up so I don't push that one and he really

doesn't need to be picked up as he is like a rash on me.”

Sam frequented the outdoor enclosure during his time at the shelter, so it came as no surprise when we found out that Sam had made friends with the chickens!

“Sam's favourite activities are sitting out in the backyard with the chickens. He has a sunny spot in a plastic garden tunnel so even on a cold day he has his own 'hot house'. He likes to hide under bushes and jump out to scare the chickens and me!” Susan said.

“Time inside is usually spent sleeping on various chairs,

couches etc and sleeping next to or on me. He is very playful and gets the zoomies, hiding in his tunnel then chasing me as I walk past.”

And as we all learned here at Ten Lives, Sam is beautiful inside and out.

“My favourite thing about Sam is his beautiful heart, he is a loving sweet boy but has a lot of spirit which I love. To watch this soul who was so nervous and scared of everything become the outgoing, happy boy he is today is truly a privilege. Plus he is extremely handsome!”

Well done Sam!



Planting the Seeds of Joy: How Happy Paws Happy Hearts and Chandlers Nursery are Making a Difference for Ten Lives Shelter Cats

ARTICLE BY: Rachel Horan, Happy Paws Happy Hearts.

Tasmania's oldest nursery, Chandlers Nursery generously donated cat grass, catnip and cat mint seeds to Happy Paws Happy Hearts for their participants to grow in-session for the shelter cats at our Ten Lives Location.

After caring for and nurturing the plants for more than five weeks, a successful first batch of cat grass, catnip and cat mint made its way to four long-term catty residents – Stormy, Jemima, Tigger Franklin and Peaches – providing them with enrichment to enhance their mental and physical wellness.

Just like us, enrichment is vital for our cats to help them utilise their natural cat instincts, and

hone their senses, like smell, taste and touch. Keeping our cats happy and stimulated provides them with a sense of comfort and helps them navigate change.

This project is particularly 'paw-some' as it doesn't only benefit our shelter cats - it also benefits the participants at Happy Paws Happy Hearts. By providing consistent tasks to help the shelter cats they know and love, the participants can come into each session seeing the real impact they are making.

We are so grateful and proud to have the support of such an iconic local business, Chandlers Nursery. Their staff already see the benefits of cat grass, catnip and cat mint as their resident cat Moo lives his best life thanks to their endless supply.

Cat grass, catnip, and cat mint are beneficial for all cats, but particularly shelter cats. Providing cat grass, catnip and cat mint can help reduce their stress through mental stimulation and a safe, enjoyable



TOP: HPHH participant Gabe with Stormy. ABOVE: HPHH Trainer Rhianna with Lauren from Chandlers Nursery.

distraction. It can also help provide behavioural enrichment by encouraging play and exploration, which can help in reducing destructive behaviours – making them more adoptable. Cat grass is also a great source of fibre to help improve digestion, while catnip and cat mint can help stimulate appetite.

We are excited to continue this project alongside Happy Paws Happy Hearts and we are so thankful to Chandlers Nursery for their generous donation. Are you interested in buying and donating some cat grass or getting some cat grass for your furry friend? Check out Chandlers Nursery - www.chandlersnursery.com.au

Volunteer With Us

If you love animals and have a passion for helping people, become a volunteer at Happy Paws Happy Hearts and make a positive impact.

Our programs support participants of different abilities in learning about and assisting to care for animals at Ten Lives and other rescue shelters and wildlife sanctuaries, while building social connections and self-confidence.

We are looking for passionate volunteers to help us make a difference by looking after animals in session and supporting our trainers.

Interested? Here's what you need:

- 🐾 Be 18 years old or older
- 🐾 NDIS Worker Screening Check
- 🐾 Confidence handling and interacting with cats and kittens
- 🐾 Strong interpersonal skills
- 🐾 To be available minimum one 4-hour shift per week

Apply Now:



Apply Now: hphhfoundation.org

✉ hello@hphhfoundation.org ☎ 1300 077 984
f @happypawshappyhearts

Locations: Queensland, New South Wales, Northern Territory & Tasmania



A Pawsome Journey

“It’s the depth of the organisation a lot of people have no idea about.”

- Greg MacLennan, volunteer driver

When Greg and Annela MacLennan relocated to Tasmania six years ago, they found themselves with a newfound opportunity to give back to their community.

Volunteering had always been close to their hearts, with Greg’s parents actively involved in various volunteer organisations such as Legacy.

They were drawn to Ten Lives, but little did they know that their journey would involve more than just petting fluffy cats. Greg and Annela have shared their experiences and insights gained from their time at Ten Lives.

Annela initially began her

volunteer journey with Ten Lives as an animal attendant, caring for the feline residents. However, when Greg joined as a volunteer, she seamlessly transitioned into the role of a volunteer driver, expanding their impact together.

“We started doing a couple of things locally and then for me it was with animals, and cats came up trumps, as we already adopted a couple of rescue cats from the RSPCA in New South Wales which we brought with us.” Annela said.

Greg and Annela acknowledged that volunteering at Ten Lives came with its own set of challenges.



Above: Greg and Annela met Mocha the Ocicat while volunteering at Ten Lives. Top Right: Sammi and Sassy. Bottom Right: Mocha happy in her forever home.



“I expected to be just patting fluffy cats per se when I started in the laundry. Now with the driving it’s hard physical work, and there’s just a huge amount involved in getting the cats looked after.” Annela said.

“I think the surprising thing is how much goes on behind the scenes.” Greg said, “It’s the depth of the organisation a lot of people have no idea about.”

When not dedicating their time for Ten Lives, Greg and Annela actively engage in other community activities.

Greg volunteers at the Maritime Museum, Men’s Shed and Woodbridge School, while both are involved with their local Probus group.

Greg humorously shared, “That keeps me busy a day or two a week, and various other community pursuits find their way into our schedule. Plus, we

have a house to run!”

Drawing from their personal experiences, Greg and Annela offered valuable advice to those considering cat adoption.

“We had adopted two prior to moving to Tassie, we lost the last one of those two at nearly 21 and a half years of age. We adopted one from Ten Lives early on in our time here, and she passed back in January.” Greg said.

Having recently adopted their fourth cat from Ten Lives, they emphasised the importance of considering adult cats for adoption.

“You’ve just gotta be totally open about it with your expectations – they may not be met. We’ve currently got a beautiful big girl that we’ve had now for nine weeks, and she - to say that she’s a handful is one thing - but in a practical sense, she’s not a handful because we can’t pick

her up!” Greg said.

“She’d quite clearly been traumatised but she’s come a huge way in the time. And it may be that she’s not a cat that likes being picked up. She was so timid at the beginning. We basically fed her and let her come to us, she loves to come up and have a cuddle, but it’s when she’s ready.” Annela added.

“The thing I would say to people looking to adopt, having said all of that is, every kitten in the world is super, super cute, but don’t overlook the adult cats because they’ve still got so much to give and we to offer.”

Greg and Annela’s commitment to volunteering and their passion for feline welfare shine through their involvement with Ten Lives. Their journey has been filled with heartwarming moments, unexpected challenges, and immeasurable rewards.

KITTEN CORNER

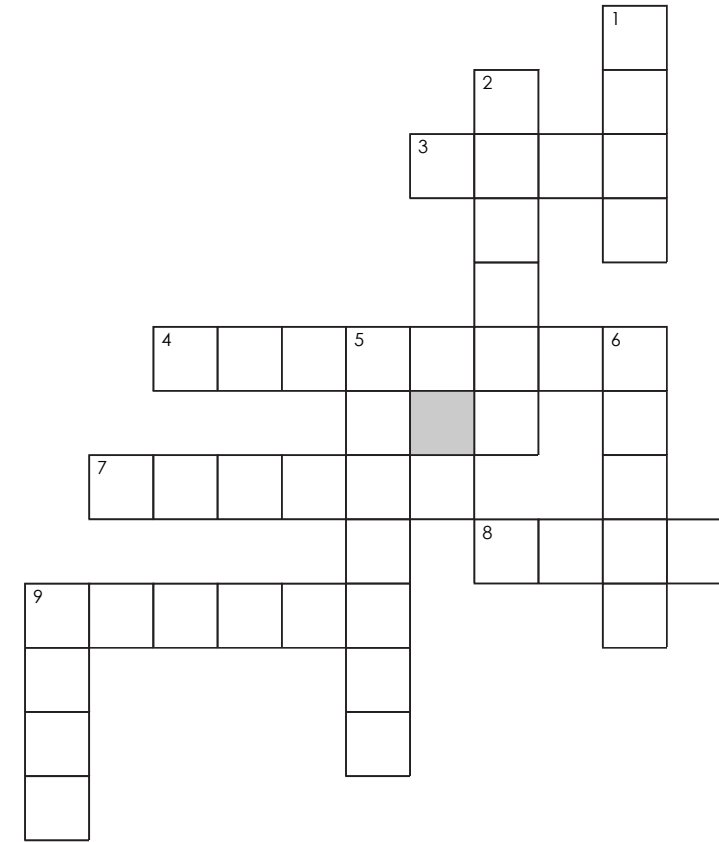


WORD SEARCH

J T R S M F P Q T X V Y H D W
 X F A P H D P A R E T T I L G
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- WHISKERS
- PAWS
- MEOW
- FUR
- KITTEN
- CLAWS
- TAIL
- NAP
- LITTER
- SCRATCH
- WHISKER
- PURR
- FELINE
- PLAYFUL
- HISS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across: →

- 3. Annoyed cat sound
- 4. Cat's facial feature
- 7. Reflective cat accessory
- 8. Curled-up sleeping position
- 9. Playful feline activity

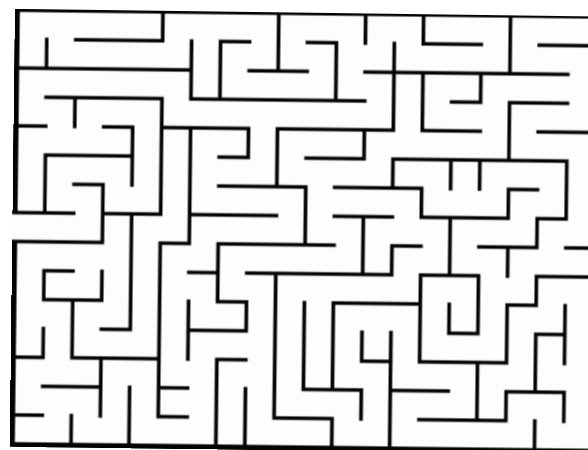
Down: ↓

- 1. Tall cat scratcher
- 2. Small newborn cat
- 5. Graceful and slender cat breed
- 6. Feline's keen sense
- 9. Sound made by a contented cat

DID YOU KNOW

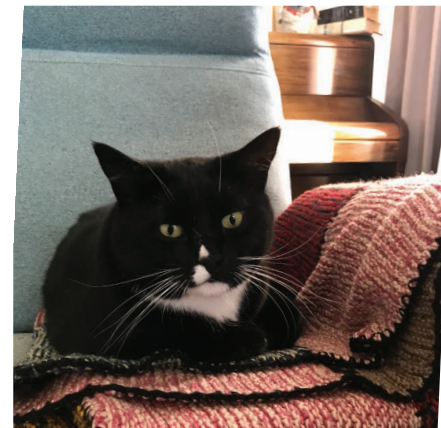
that you can bring the Edu.Cat program to your school? How cool would it be to have Ten Lives in your classroom! Ask your teacher or parent today!

Edu.Cat
tenlives.com.au/educate





Donald's Pawsitively Purrfect People



Main photo: Donald smooching up to the staff at the shelter. Above: Donald's antics in his forever home.

Donald is beautiful, quirky boy who was a staff favourite and adored wherever he went! He has the cutest crooked smile, and has the personality to suit! He is the trifecta - snuggly, playful and full of character.

This gorgeous tuxedo boy loved nothing more than to wind around your legs and smooch everyone he met.

Donald is another of our Office Cat alumni, who spent over nine months in our care. He had a couple of breaks from the shelter in foster care during his journey.

He required a particular home where he could have access to an outside enclosure, as he spent lots of time in the outdoor

enclosure watching all the birds and people go by.

The day finally came when Donald found his forever human in Angela.

"Donald was very timid when we first brought him home. He tip toed here and there and slept in the lounge." Angela said.

"He now sleeps on my bed, and in the early mornings and in the evening after dinner he runs/gallops in great bursts through the house. I think he's happy. He loves to play with toys and has a quiet meow."

At Ten Lives we try to find out as much about a cat's personality as we can, through their time in

foster care and at the shelter.

"Donald is his own person, and like his description at Ten Lives, Donald likes affection on his terms; he still won't sit on our laps. We love Donald!" Angela said.

"His favourite pastime is sitting staring out the window watching the birds! When I'm doing paperwork at the dinner table he likes to sit on top of my papers, stare at me and play with objects."

And Angela's favourite thing about Donald? "His bunting and quiet loving manner, with bursts of explosive, joyful running!"

Congratulations Donald!

WE NEED YOU!



COMMUNITY & EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

Join our Education and Community team and make an impact in the community by taking responsibility for cats!

We have broadened the role of this group of volunteers to not only deliver our world class education program for schools, Edu.Cat, but also to be involved in community activities at the Ten Lives shelter and other community-based activities.

Join the team to:

- Assist with community events and programs
- Deliver educational presentations at the shelter and in the classroom
- Conduct shelter tours for the public and schools
- Provide administrative support

We aim to make long-term positive change in how the community cares for cats, improve community relationships, and protect wildlife.

We are back in the classroom delivering Edu.Cat and we have a training and education room being built as part of our shelter upgrade. This will provide more options for schools to be involved in our program.

This is a fun and flexible volunteering opportunity within a team and we provide all the training and support.

Best of all, you get to be with our cats and kittens at the shelter!

Visit tenlives.com.au/volunteer or contact us at Ten Lives to find out more and be part of creating a better future for cats. Help us achieve our bottom line for people, the planet... and pussy cats.



Ten Lives Manager Noel Hunt and Regional Cat Management Coordinator Dr Sara Balouch look at a hotspot map of Ten Lives intake data from the Midway Point area

Midway Point Project

Our aim is to improve responsible cat ownership within our community and that is why Ten Lives is a key partner in the innovative cat management program on Bruny Island. We have taken these learnings and applied them in other locations, notably Richmond.

The State Government's Cat Management Coordinator, Dr Sara Balouch (TassieCat), who is based at Ten Lives, and Dibas Panta, Sorell Council's Natural Resources and Environment Coordinator, have got together with Ten Lives to look at a cat management project for Midway Point.

We want to improve the welfare of cats in our community. Our holistic approach to this challenge initially encompasses 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 Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania is another way that we can gather information to get baseline data of the extent of the problem and find opportunities to improve the welfare of cats, help our community, and protect the environment.

After this is done we can consider further activities to promote microchipping and desexing of cats, finding homes for unwanted litters and strays, helping people that may have too many cats for them to care for properly, and trapping feral cats in the bush.

How can you help?

We need your opinion and support for this proposed Cat Management Community Project in Midway Point.

Can we...

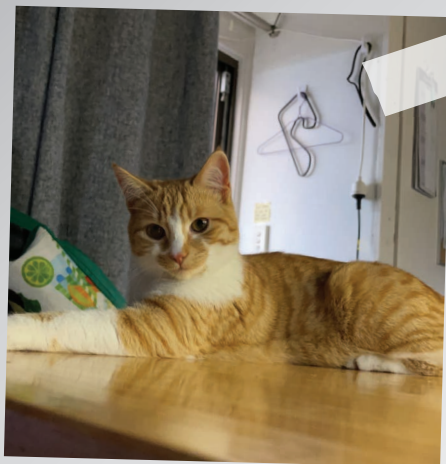
- Improve the welfare of local cats?
- Decrease unwanted animals in our community?
- Protect wildlife?
- Decrease community nuisance of stray and feral cats?

You can get involved by...

- Talking to us! Give us your thoughts and ideas
- We will be hitting the Midway Point streets to chat to people about cats
- Email reception@tenlives.com.au
- Phone 6278 2111
- Filling out our survey: visit tenlives.com.au/midway-survey/ to fill out our online survey
- Promoting this initiative
- Discussing cats with interested parties in the community (business owners, friends or family members) and sending them our way if they would like to be involved further

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



BOBBY

"We always admired the kittens and cats that Ten Lives posted daily. We were finally in a spot to adopt a pet and we went down and spent a good hour there. We left and an hour later we came back and adopted Bobby. Bobby has settled in perfectly. He pretty much runs the house. He's super cuddly, vocal and loves water. He is spoilt rotten, not only by his owners but everyone. He loves sitting on the bench watching tv or having a competition to see who blinks first."

- Nathan, Bobby's hoomin. Adopted April 2022

"We came in to look at a certain kitty that unfortunately wasn't there, but while having a look Leo (previously Leonardo) ended up stealing our hearts. He was very quick in making our house his home, as soon as he was let out he was climbing up and down everything he could. He also made himself very comfortable in our bed that night."

- Holly, Leo's hoomin. Adopted May 2022



LEO



GEORGE

"Puppy Willow, needed a friend to keep her company whilst we were at work, we were looking for a cat that loved dogs and wrestling, but also a cat that liked to snuggle down of a night time, although George only has 1 eye, he still beats Willow in a wrestling match any day! He is perfect!"

- Tiarna, George's hoomin. Adopted August



BELLE

"She was very shy at first and hid under the couch, but she slowly emerged and started to show her true personality. She grew to love pats, chin scratches, belly rubs and cuddles though to this day she isn't a lap cat. I live alone so she is firmly a one person cat. She likes looking out windows (especially if there are birds outside), jumping onto surfaces, finding new cozy spots to sleep, playing with her toys (and other random items around the house) and spending time outside in her cat run. Almost 3 years later and I couldn't imagine life without her."

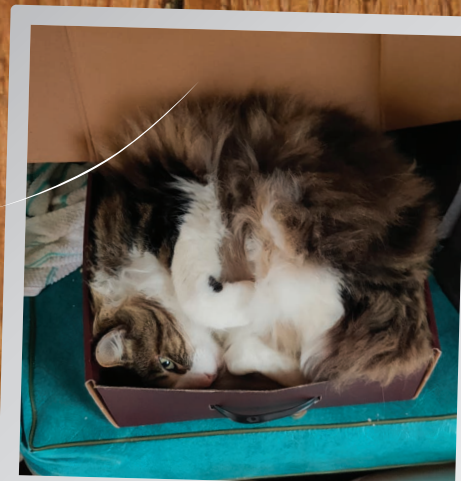
- Amy, Belle's hoomin. Adopted November 2019



BILBO

"When we met Bilbo (gorgeous at the time) she instantly won us over with her shy but curious nature. Bilbo has settled in well, maybe a little bit too well. She definitely thinks she's the boss when she wakes us up at 5am every morning by licking our faces. She loves running around the other cats and jumping on all the furniture."

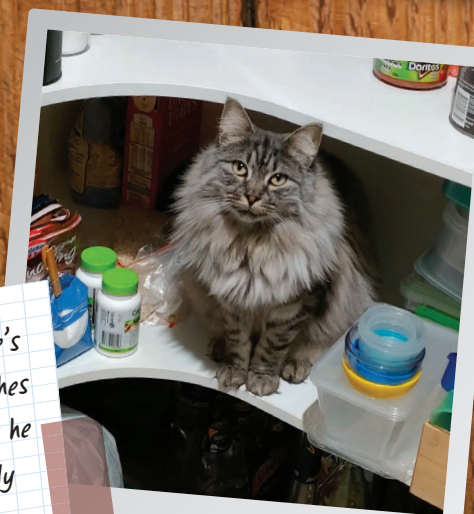
- Geordan, Bilbo's hoomin. Adopted July 2022



KAI

"Myself, my sister and mum went in one Saturday to look at the cats and kittens for adoption and I saw Kai and he was my favourite cat, so I went back in the following Monday and spent more time with him, then decided his new home will be with me and his new fur sisters."

- Suzanne, Kai's hoomin. Adopted March 2022



BAILEY

"Bailey is now like my shadow. When I shower he's waiting for me. When I brush my teeth he pushes things off the shelf. When I am in the kitchen he makes sure I trip on him or that I accidentally close him in the pantry. He loves his dad too. Only does tricks for him, whenever he is in the mood of course."

- Rosie, Bailey's hoomin. Adopted December 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.



SHOP



Now available from the Ten Lives Shop!

Walkie Pouch



This handy, lightweight pouch comes with 20 DOOG pick up bags that pull out like tissues from a little hole at the front. The Walkie Pouch clips easily onto the handle of your leash so you never get caught out.

\$15⁴⁰

'Clip It' Leash



The DOOG 'Clip It' lead allows you to easily and quickly tie your dog up outside your favourite coffee shop or grocery store without fiddling about looping leads through handles. The quick snap clasp goes from being a dog handle to a lead fastener in one click!

\$31⁵⁰

Car Restraint



Designed to secure your dog in the rear of the car when you're on the road. Clip one side onto your dog harness and click the other end into your seatbelt and off you go for a safe and secure road trip.

\$17⁰⁰

Treat & Training Pouch



Co-designed with professional dog trainers. DOOG's Good Dog Treat pouches include all the important functions you need to train any dog into being a good dog.

\$33⁰⁰

Neosport Soft Harness



Stylish active wear for dogs to walk, play and swim in! Our new perforated neosport harness collection comes in a range of sophisticated, neutral colours with 2 leash attachments.

SMALL
\$33⁰⁰

Neosport Collar



Our new neosport collection of collars come in a sleek, neutral design with black hardware and embossed logo webbing. Match with a neosport harness and leash or even match your dog by matching with a neosport hip belt or bag.

SMALL
\$19²⁵

See our range at New Town, North Hobart and New Norfolk!

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