

scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Summer 2024



Photo: Rachael Daniels/rachaelidphotography.com

**A Legacy
of Love:**
Celebrating
50 Years of Cats
and Community

ALSO: CATWALK CHALLENGE ∷ MIDWAY POINT PROJECT ∷ MOONAH OP SHOP OPENING



Cover

Model: Baxter

Photographer: Rachael Daniels

Baxter first came into the care of Ten Lives as a 14-week-old kitten and was adopted soon after. On May 9th 2024 he returned to us at 1 year old after his new family's circumstances had changed. After a stay in foster care to build his confidence, Baxter became available for adoption again on May 31st and found his forever home on June 7th!



Baxter as a kitten

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



John X and Samantha James-Radford from Big Monkey Theatre presented a \$4,000 donation to Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt

CEO's Corner

This December marks the 50th anniversary of the Cat Centre's opening on Strickland Avenue in South Hobart - a truly meaningful milestone for us all. In this edition, we take this moment to recognize the many individuals - volunteers, staff, foster carers, and supporters - who have shaped this incredible journey.

Over the years, we've launched a variety of initiatives to make a difference in the lives of cats and kittens in our community. This year's Ten Lives Ten Day Catwalk Challenge saw participants - including some Catwalkers returning for the fourth year - take to social media to help raise \$7,305 for after-hours emergency vet services.

Our Op Shops continue to thrive as well, now with four stores - including the recently opened Moonah location - supporting our Centre through sales and building community connections. Each shop has become a haven for secondhand treasures, with our dedicated volunteers sorting, pricing, and caring for the resident cat. Cats like Beau have even served as op shop ambassadors, winning the hearts of shoppers and volunteers alike as they awaited their forever homes.

We hope the stories in this edition bring you inspiration as we look toward the future, working together to advocate for animal welfare. Thank you for your invaluable support, which makes it all possible.

Noel Hunt, CEO

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Building Project Update

If you have been out to 12 Selfs Point Road recently you would have seen a lot of progress on our building project.

The whole area is a hive of activity with new housing units being built just down the road in Stainforth Court and of course the major Taswater development that is now in full swing.

Our project is nearly to lock up stage and is really taking shape.

We really appreciate our supporters that have donated to this project through our fundraising activity. The suppliers and tradies that have supported us have been absolutely amazing. We display

their logos in the Scratching Post and can highly recommend each one if you are doing some building or renovation work.

Since the last update in the Scratching Post the following people have helped us out:

Clennett's have helped with steel for the slab; they came on board early in our project and have stayed with us throughout the journey.

Geoffrey and Robert Hazell and their Concrete Team have been exceptionally generous with a major contribution of concrete for the slab. Hazell Bros has a fantastic story as part of Tasmania's history and is a major contributor to Tasmanian infrastructure. We are so thankful

they are part of Ten Lives story now.

This project is now becoming a reality, and our team are very excited and thankful for the generous support we have received to make this a reality.

With the additional space we will be able to reconfigure the use of the whole centre. This will mean additional hospital facilities, space for timid cats, and improved adoption facilities. We will also have a better space for school and community education purposes.

All this means better care for our cats and kittens, which will allow us to do even more work for our community, the environment, and our cats.

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



Ten Lives would like to thank the following local businesses for their support of Tradies for Tabbies:



REC Hydraulic
Design P/L





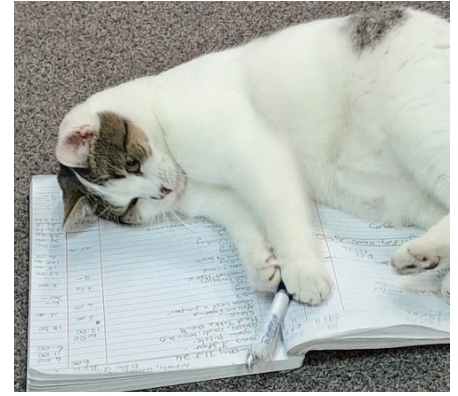
Beau's Tail of Triumph



Main Photo: Beau in the adoption rooms. Photo: Rachael Daniels

Inset: Beau in foster care recovering from flu.

Opposite: Beau's adventures at the North Hobart Op Shop



Beau, a one-year-old tabby with distinctive white markings, made quite an impression during his stay at the shelter. Since arriving in May, Beau's lively personality and warm-hearted nature quickly won over everyone who met him. From his playful energy to his love of affection, Beau was truly one-of-a-kind.

When Beau was first surrendered, he showed signs of cat flu, a common condition that many cats experience at some point. For Beau, this meant nasal discharge that made it difficult for him to breathe comfortably. With the care of our shelter team and the time he spent in foster care, Beau made a full recovery and was ready for adoption by early June. His foster period not only helped him recuperate but also gave him the chance to enjoy a calm, safe environment.

Beau is, without a doubt, an energetic cat. He thrives when he has room to zoom around

and play to his heart's content. Despite his love for activity, he's equally happy to settle down and cuddle when the day winds down, often seeking out a warm lap to relax on. His gentle, affectionate side shines through in these quiet moments, making him a delightful companion for anyone looking to share their life with a cat who's both playful and loving. Just be sure to keep your hands away from his tummy—while he enjoys showing it off, he's not a fan of belly rubs!

Beau's lively spirit found a wonderful outlet when he spent time as a resident cat for adoption at our North Hobart Op Shop. While he had a safe cat run for visitors during the day, Beau was given time to explore after hours. As soon as the doors closed, Beau would be let out to roam the shop floors, wander up the stairs, and explore the warehouse, giving him the perfect environment to stretch his legs and satisfy his curious nature! The Op Shop volunteers were thrilled to have

him there, and he quickly became a beloved part of the team. Beau's charm and playfulness meant he was a frequent topic of conversation, and the volunteers were overjoyed to see him finally find his forever family.

Beau's time at the Op Shop not only gave him extra socialisation but also helped him become a confident, adaptable cat ready to bond with his future family. Finally, in mid-October, Beau's patience paid off when he met his perfect match and was welcomed into his new home — a happy ending for this delightful tabby and white boy.

With his friendly personality, boundless energy, and love of companionship, Beau will bring endless joy to his new family. He's a truly special cat, and we couldn't be happier that he has found a place to call home.

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



Cath's Community Connections

Pulling beers at a pub, booking top bands and acts for one of Tasmania's best pub venues, providing infrastructure for events like the Taste of Tasmania and Dark Mofo, tackling the Kokoda Trail, fundraising for charity while taking on the Three Capes Walk. What is the connection?

But wait on, there is much, much more; a leader in the construction industry owning and running a significant plumbing business in Tasmania, providing innovative plumbing technology solutions, encouraging and facilitating women into the plumbing industry, and cultivating a friendly and fun environment that encourages staff training and upskilling,

Wow!

Meet Cath McDowell. Managing Director and Owner of Howrah Plumbing.

When we have major events like the Taste of Tasmania, we often

take for granted the substantial amount of work that needs to be done to make it happen. You guessed it! Howrah Plumbing provides much of the necessary infrastructure for these events, including the provision of all the gas services so the stalls can serve up all the tasty treats to the thousands of eager customers.

You would expect that in the plumbing trade, strong connections would be part and parcel of top-notch work. We are sure it is, but connections seem to be a common theme with Cath and her company.

Last year, Ten Lives was launching our program, Tradies for Tabbies, where generous building and related trade businesses helped Ten Lives to upgrade our facilities for our cats.

All the media were in attendance talking to some of our fantastic supporters; Andrew and Lee-

Anne Lyden from Lyden Builders, along with Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan and Cath McDowell from Howrah Plumbing. One of the media reporters asked Cath why she came on board and helped a charitable animal welfare organisation such as Ten Lives. Was it a passion for cats and did she have her own cat? No. Cath didn't have a cat. Her beautiful Border Collie, Luna, would have something to say about that!

Cath's reply? "Because Dave asked me." The reply caused a few smiles. The willingness of Cath to support charitable organisations like Ten Lives through her strong connection with people in the community becomes even more obvious the more you get to know Cath's world.

Cath joined Ten Lives Ambassador Dave Noonan a couple of years back when they and a group of fellow Tasmanians took on the



Cath was a guest on Ten Lives' Cat Chat segment on 7HOFM

challenge of the Kokoda Trail. Cath said it took a lot of preparation and determination to battle the tough weather and physical conditions. That despite the challenge, it was rewarding. There were often very profound moments that made the connection to the spirit of courage, endurance, mateship and sacrifice in keeping with the history of 'the track'. A very strong bond and connection formed amongst the team that took on the journey.

When Cath joined Howrah Plumbing nearly three decades ago, the company's communication with its team relied on CB radios, and the internet was an innovation only just starting to come into use in business. Today, as Managing Director and owner, Cath continues to promote continuous improvement within her business and team.

Cath's story with Howrah Plumbing began unexpectedly. Starting out at Harback Joinery, her plans changed after a fire destroyed the Cambridge factory where she worked. After a few twists and turns she eventually found her path to Howrah Plumbing and, over the years, transitioned from Receptionist to Admin Officer, then Business Manager, and ultimately, owner and Managing Director of the company. The steady climb wasn't easy. A commitment to ongoing personal development and training and her dedication to fostering connections with colleagues, clients, and the

community kept her on course.

Cath's journey to managing director has been marked by her own continuous learning, and she is deeply committed to professional development within her team. This commitment is a cornerstone of Howrah Plumbing's company culture. Nearly all Howrah Plumbing apprentices advance to Certificate IV qualifications, enabling them to perform specialised work and develop their careers.

Her goal is to help others find the right path, just as she did when construction first caught her attention.

With women still underrepresented in construction, Cath recognizes the unique challenges female apprentices face. When new female apprentices join Howrah Plumbing, she supports them in the field, helping them to build confidence in the trade. "Knowing they have support makes a difference," Cath said. She sees this approach as vital to cultivating a comfortable and inclusive work environment. Her support ranges from morning coffees for her team to coordinating group training sessions at a nearby gym. "We're a close-knit team," she says.

A family indeed, with her daughters Jade and Steph both working in the business and, of course, being encouraged to undertake training and development as they start their career journey. We could see from our Ten Lives dealings with the Howrah Plumbing team that there are many long-term staff who are helpful and friendly.

While managing all this work with Howrah Plumbing, Cath has still found time to support friends over the years. Cath spent a couple of years helping a friend who needed cover for her job at the Longley International Hotel. Cath enjoyed the interaction with customers as she served behind



Cath at the Tradies for Tabbies launch

the bar. She also managed the extensive entertainment program at Longley by booking some of the finest bands and acts from around the state and across Australia. This included the fabulous Blues Brothers Revival Band. Another connection as you might recall - Jake and Elwood from the Blues Brothers Revival helped Ten Lives with our fundraiser for our much-needed laundry equipment.

Cath's impact at Howrah Plumbing continues to grow, as does her mission to bring others along for the journey. From supporting young apprentices to building charitable connections, Cath McDowell isn't just building a business—she's building a legacy of connection and community.

At Ten Lives we cannot thank Cath and the team at Howrah Plumbing enough for what they have done for us. This has greatly assisted the important work we do for cats, our environment and our community.

- Residential Plumbing
- Commercial Plumbing
- Hydro Vacuum Excavations
- Pipe Relining Services
- Blocked Drains and Toilets
- Gas Fitting
- Hot Water Plumbing
- Roof Plumbing and Repairs
- Wastewater Services
- Water and Sewer Connections
- Emergency Plumbing



The Moonah Op Shop, Corner of Main Road and Hopkins Street in the historic Dickenson's Arcade.



Ten Lives President Paula Wriedt officially opening the Moonah Op Shop

HELLO MOONAH!

Ten Lives Op Shops have become a much-loved part of the Hobart second-hand community. With shops already in Margate, North Hobart, and New Norfolk, we were thrilled to announce the opening of our new Moonah store.

The store, which opened in July, is prominently located on the corner of Main Road and Hopkins Street in the historic Dickenson's Arcade. A grand opening event for Ten Lives volunteers, staff, and other supporters was held on the 23rd of July, with the store officially opened by Ten Lives President Paula Wriedt.

"Moonah is a thriving business community that offers a wide range of stores, so it's a pleasure for us to become part of that," said Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt. "We're confident the new store will do well and be a valuable asset to the community."

The new store will also stock a range of cat and dog supplies, including toys and food. At present, there are no pet stores along Main Road, meaning customers have to travel elsewhere to buy premium pet food.

But it's not just the bargain hunters who are pleased. Our Op Shops generate much-needed

funds for the Centre, supporting vital services such as surgeries and veterinary treatments.

As anyone who has visited a Ten Lives Op Shop knows, no store would be complete without a resident kitty. Just like in our other stores, Moonah will feature cats awaiting adoption.

"Having a cat onsite really sets us apart from other Op Shops," Noel added. "It also reminds customers that their support goes directly toward helping cats and kittens in need."

Ten Lives extends a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers



Expanded Space, More Treasures!

Since opening in 2020, our North Hobart Op Shop has quickly become a favorite destination for locals, with its well-curated selection of fashion, accessories, and homewares. Due to its popularity and community support, we're excited to announce that the store has recently undergone an extension, expanding its space and allowing us to offer an even greater range of unique finds. This extension enhances the shopping experience, making room for a wider selection of high-quality second-hand fashion, home decor, and more.

The success and growth of our North Hobart location would not be possible without our dedicated team of volunteers. Their hard work and passion have been invaluable, especially during the setup of this new space. They tirelessly sorted, displayed,

and organized every corner to ensure the store reflects the welcoming atmosphere our Op Shops are known for. Their efforts have not only created a more enjoyable shopping experience for our customers but have also contributed directly to our mission of supporting Ten Lives and the cats in our care.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to each volunteer who played a role in this project. We are immensely grateful for your dedication, which has allowed us to serve the community better and raise crucial funds for our centre. Next time you're in North Hobart, come by and explore the new space – you're bound to find something special while supporting a worthy cause.

Anyone interested in helping out at by volunteering at any of our Op Shops should contact the Centre on 6278 2111 or visit tenlives.com.au/volunteer

and staff who contributed to the opening of the new store. We are also deeply grateful to the many local businesses who helped us set up in near-record time. A special thanks to The Carpet Company for supplying and laying the new carpet, Andrew Lyden Builders for the store fit-out, Wayne Pearton for setup, cleaning, and rubbish removal, TerryWhite Chemmart in Margate for donating shop fixtures, Parr's Heat Pump Centre for installing the heat pumps, and Michaela and Adrian from Red Square Café for donating the catering for the grand opening.



Estelle getting a licky stick from foster carer Thesspina during a vet appointment.

Finding Forever Through Foster Care

Like most cats who come into Ten Lives, Estelle's journey to the adoption rooms required an extended stay in foster care. When she arrived on August 19th, this timid girl needed a fractured canine tooth extracted and was placed in a foster home to await her surgery. After her procedure, Estelle stayed in foster care, receiving regular follow-ups to ensure her gum flap healed well, with medication supporting her recovery.

Initially shy, she soon blossomed into a cuddly lap cat, though she remains cautious around new people and thrives best in a quiet, cat-free home. An elderly couple or office worker who can give her one-on-one attention would be ideal for this sweet, snuggly girl.

Estelle was lovingly cared for by foster carer Thesspina, who has been fostering for Ten Lives for eight months. Estelle is her eighth foster kitty.



Vet nurse Clem comforts Estelle during her examination.



Estelle in the adoption rooms waiting for her forever home.

“I love giving them a safe and comfortable space and all the love while they wait for their forever person,” says Thesspina. “It’s so great when they start to feel comfortable with you and show their little personalities.”

When asked what she’d like to share with new foster carers she said, “They are so much more loving and cuddly than I expected. I thought the norm would be stand-offish, but they have all been so engaged.”

Fostering also gave Thesspina the chance to experience the companionship of a pet without the long-term commitment. “I thought it would be a great opportunity to meet different personalities and see if I enjoy having a pet without all the responsibility.”

On October 18th, two months after entering Ten Lives, Estelle was ready to move to the adoption rooms, marking the final step in her journey to find a forever home.

For those unable to commit to long-

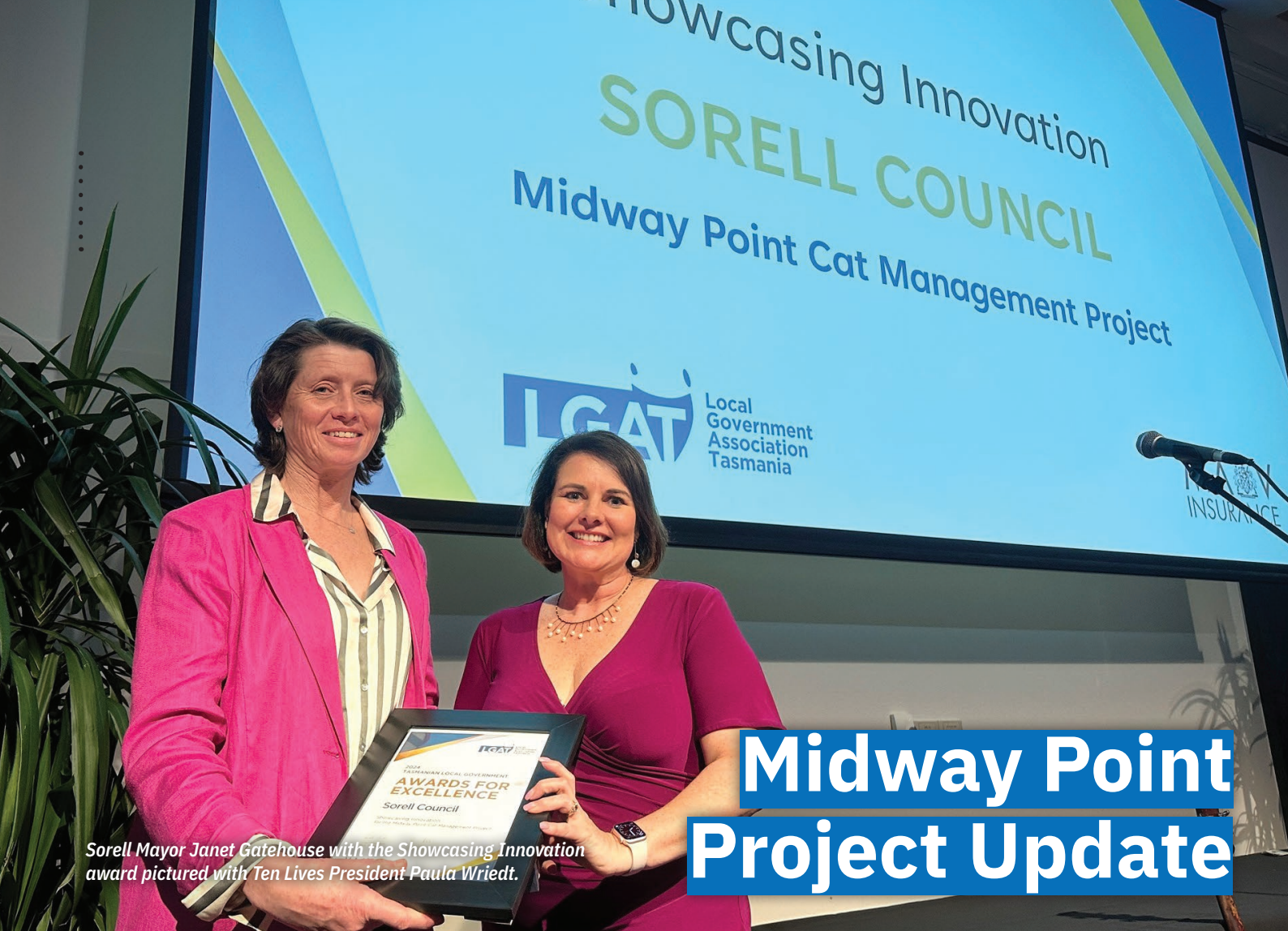
term care, fostering offers a purr-fect opportunity, especially for those who travel, work, or study from home. A short stay, just a few weeks, can be transformative for a cat.

Foster carers provide temporary homes for cats needing extra love, whether they are recovering from surgery, too young for adoption, or just shy.

Ten Lives supports foster carers with everything they need, from food and litter to medical care. However, future foster carers, be warned—those soothing purrs and affectionate nudges might lead to a “foster fail,” where you find yourself unable to part with your foster cat!

Fostering can be a brief chapter in your life but can rewrite the entire story for a kitty in need. For many cats like Estelle, fostering serves as the bridge to a love-filled future.

Find out more about joining our team of fabulous foster carers at tenlives.com.au/foster



Sorell Mayor Janet Gatehouse with the Showcasing Innovation award pictured with Ten Lives President Paula Wriedt.

Midway Point Project Update

The Midway Point Cat Management Project focused on working with the local community to promote and improve ways to keep cats safe, healthy and happy, while protecting wildlife in the ecologically sensitive Pitt Water Orielton Lagoon Ramsar site.

Ten Lives takes a holistic approach to cat management, an approach we have developed through our work on key projects such as Bruny Island and Richmond. The approach starts with community consultation and gathering data on the extent of the challenge. From this, strategies are put in place to address the issues for the area. This is backed up with education in the community and our

education program, Edu.Cat, in the schools.

A key initiative identified through the Midway Point public survey was the need for a cat desexing project.

The desexing program has been a great success with over 60 families already assisted with free desexing of their cats. We have been very pleased with the results of this work as we have really engaged and managed to help people who are genuinely concerned for their cats and their community. The people have been very deserving and appreciative of being able to get this help.

We really appreciate the support of the Hobart Community Vet Hospital who allowed our vet teams to work in their surgeries. We needed to work there so that

we met some compliance issues. We will resolve these matters soon so watch this space for more exciting announcements from Ten Lives! But a big thank you to the Hobart Community Vet Hospital for their help to get this project happening.

For such a successful project it was pleasing to see that Sorell Council received the Showcasing Innovation Award at the Local Government Association annual dinner for their collaboration with Ten Lives and TassieCat. It was great that our President, Paula Wriedt, was in attendance to participate in the presentation.

A number of Councils are considering options for cat management activities in their areas, and we are sure the success of the Midway Point project will be part of their considerations.



Tamara, Bronwyn and Franky from the Moonah Op Shop showing off our latest award.

IT'S A THREE-PEAT: TEN LIVES IS 'BEST OF THE BEST' AGAIN!

7HOFM's "Best of the Best" awards were back again in 2024, and we're thrilled that Ten Lives has claimed the top spot in the "Op Shop" category for the third consecutive year!

Once again, this award highlights the exceptional dedication and hard work of our incredible volunteers who make our Op Shops so much more than just a shop.

This achievement shines brightly in Hobart's vibrant Op Shop scene, and we're deeply grateful to everyone who cast their vote for us. Your support means so much – thank you!

"Our team was over the moon to be named 'Best Op Shop' for the third year in a row!" said Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt. "This recognition goes beyond the title – it's a wonderful tribute to our devoted

volunteers who bring the unique spirit of Ten Lives to life in every shop."

Our Op Shops aren't just fundraising spaces – they're treasure troves of unique finds, affordable gems, and a welcoming atmosphere that celebrates our furry friends. From shopping to adopting, or even stopping by to learn more about responsible cat care, our shops are open and inviting to everyone.

A huge shoutout to our incredible volunteers, whose commitment fills our spaces with passion, purpose, and plenty of purrs.

Thank you once again to everyone who voted and believes in our mission.

Want to join the Best of the Best? apply now to join our volunteer team at tenlives.com.au

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

MARGATE,
NORTH HOBART
NEW NORFOLK
& MOONAH

MORNING,
AFTERNOON OR
FULL DAY SHIFTS
AVAILABLE

Scan to apply ↘



or call 6278 2111

tenlives.com.au/volunteer

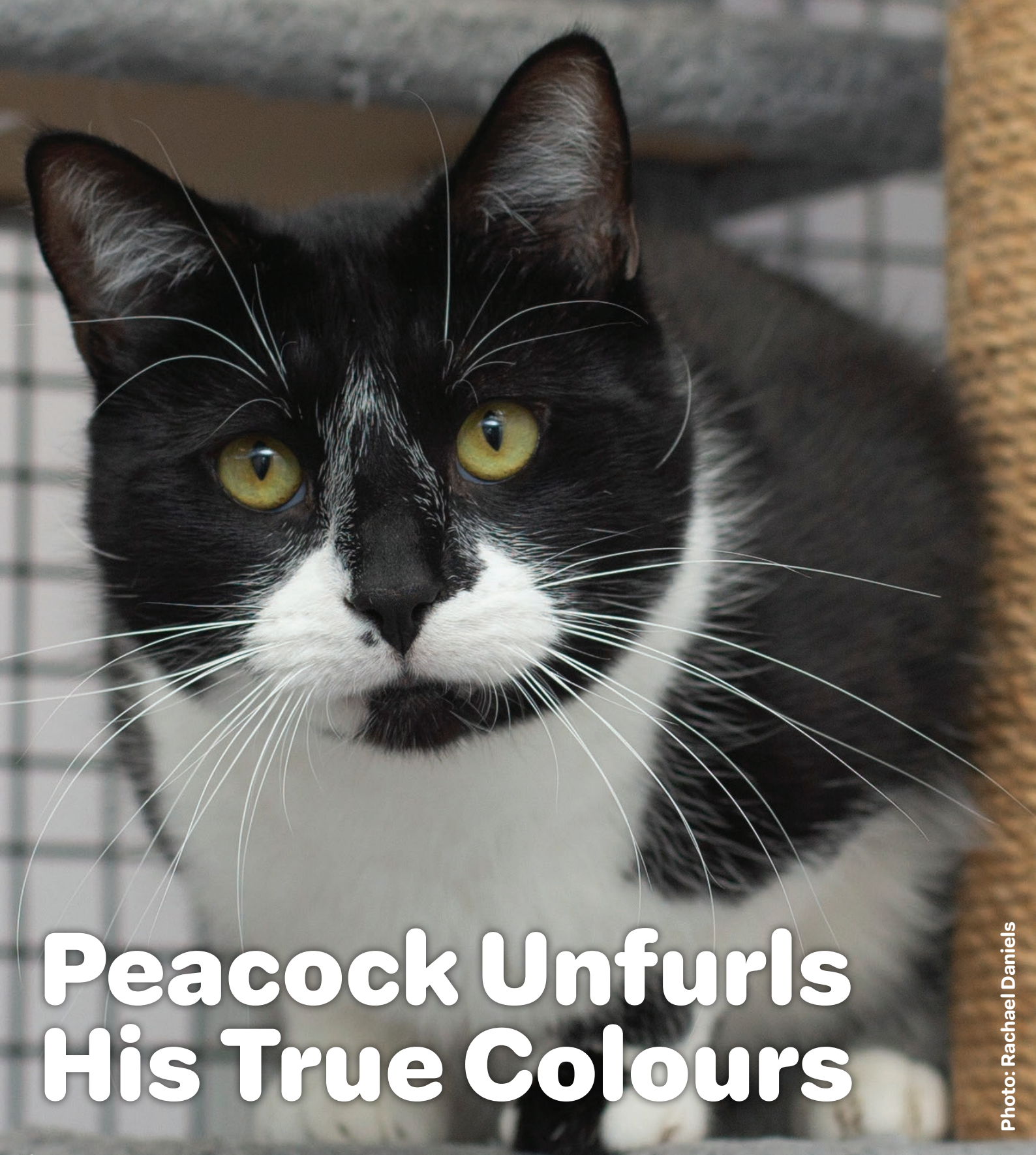


Photo: Rachael Daniels

Peacock Unfurls His True Colours

When Peacock, a striking black-and-white cat, first arrived at the shelter in late July, he was understandably shy and reserved, preferring to stay tucked away in his bed.

During his initial examination, it

became clear Peacock needed extensive dental surgery due to severe dental disease.

The procedure required the removal of multiple teeth, as well as a thorough cleaning of the remaining ones. Following surgery, Peacock remained in the

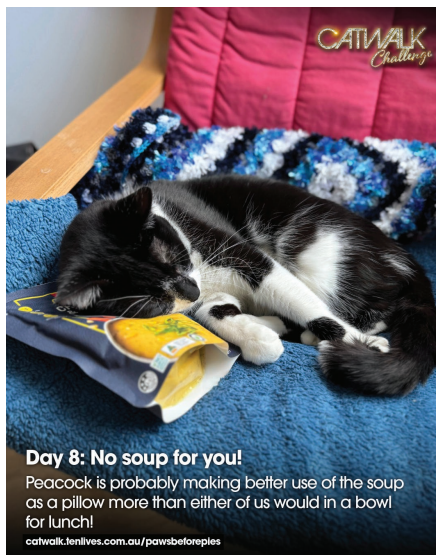
shelter's care to ensure a smooth recovery. During this time, staff also discovered that he had a sensitive gastrointestinal system, which meant his diet needed careful monitoring to keep him healthy.



Day 3: Soup-er Disappointing

It appears Peacock is not a fan of veggies, or soup, and I can't say I blame him!

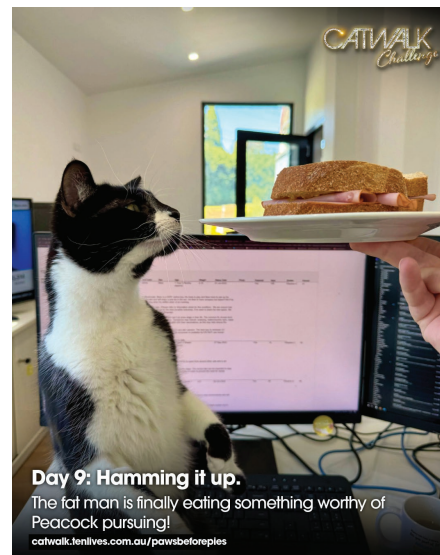
catwalk.tenlives.com.au/pawbeforepleas



Day 8: No soup for you!

Peacock is probably making better use of the soup as a pillow more than either of us would in a bowl for lunch!

catwalk.tenlives.com.au/pawbeforepleas



Day 9: Hamming it up.

The fat man is finally eating something worthy of Peacock pursuing!

catwalk.tenlives.com.au/pawbeforepleas

Above: Some of Peacock's content for the Ten Day Catwalk Challenge. Peacock and his hoomin raised \$1,081 towards the grand total.

Given Peacock's shy disposition and his post-surgery needs, he wasn't placed in foster care. Instead, he found a comfortable spot as the shelter's "office cat," where he could recover in a quiet environment while staff worked nearby. The office setting allowed him to gradually grow comfortable with human company, revealing his true personality at his own pace. Peacock's endearing charm really shone during the Ten Day Catwalk Challenge, where he starred in daily updates shared with supporters on social media. This challenge provided him with a bit of celebrity status, and his fans delighted in seeing him blossom day by day.

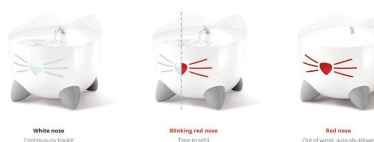
Over time, Peacock's confidence grew, and he began to transform from a timid onlooker into a loving, affectionate companion. He became particularly fond of cozy blankets, often kneading them with his paws — a ritual accompanied by loud purrs and even a bit of drooling when he was especially content. Peacock also became more comfortable having his favourite people nearby and was quick to show his affection. Though reserved at first, Peacock is a cat who rewards patience with loyalty and warmth, making him a special friend to those who take the time to earn his trust.

While Peacock enjoys being around people, he's also sensitive

to loud noises and sudden changes, so we knew he'd do best in a quiet home with adults or older children. A peaceful environment with a designated safe spot is his ideal place, giving him the security he needs to thrive and where he could bond with his new family.

After officially becoming available for adoption in late September, Peacock charmed everyone who met him. His journey from shy to sociable, amplified by his Catwalk Challenge "stardom," touched many hearts. Finally, on October 12th, Peacock found his forever home — a quiet, loving place where he can continue to blossom and bring joy to his new family, one purr at a time.

THE CATIT PIXI FOUNTAIN RANGE AVAILABLE NOW FROM TEN LIVES SHOP



LED backlit nose and whiskers let you know when to add more water



Catit PIXI Fountain
Stainless Steel
\$120⁰⁰

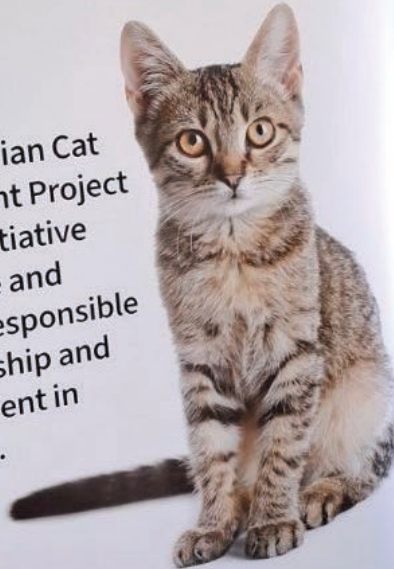
Catit PIXI Smart Fountain
Stainless Steel with WiFi
\$240⁰⁰

Catit PIXI Fountains
Available in White, Blue or Pink
\$105⁰⁰

Be
You
sel

Be a responsible cat owner and help keep our cats, community and wildlife safe.

The Tasmanian Cat Management Project is a joint initiative to promote and facilitate responsible cat ownership and management in Tasmania.



Alyssa recently visited the Cafe Lunch at the Risdon Vale Neighbourhood Centre, talking about responsible cat ownership

Community and Education Team Update

Anna and Alyssa in our Community and Education team have been very busy this year in their work to promote responsible cat ownership and engage with our community.

Alyssa has been getting out and about in the community delivering our Meow Meals to Neighbourhood Houses and community centres, engaging with the locals discussing their cat welfare challenges, providing advice and assistance where possible.

Ten Lives is lucky to have Anna Viney with her vast experience in education. She has been expertly reviewing our school education program, Edu.Cat. Anna has completed the update so that it is aligned to the latest version of the Australian Curriculum.

Anna tells us that the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) V9 Curriculum aims to be more manageable for teachers and to clearly identify essential content that our children should learn.

While completing this update, Anna also has focused on making Edu.Cat even more fun and user friendly for our volunteer presenters.

Edu.Cat now has many new features that make it even more flexible. This year our program has been delivered to classes from 3 year olds in the Launch into Learning program, right up to Year 11/12 Animal Care students. Our Community and Education team have been out delivering Edu.Cat in the schools as well as hosting visits to Ten

Lives Shelter. We love to have visitors at Ten Lives and this year we have welcomed many groups of people to learn about cat welfare and responsible



Anna Viney has reviewed the Edu.Cat program ready for the latest version of the ACARA Australian Curriculum

cat ownership. This includes a diverse range of students and community members, from the very young to senior citizens. We have presented at the Midway Point Neighbourhood Kids after School Club and worked at the Richmond Primary School Science Expo.

Another highlight has been the team's involvement in the recent Festival of Bright Ideas held at Princes Wharf in Hobart. Anna was joined by team members Daphne and Donn at this wonderful festival, highlighting Science and STEM ideas to challenge students, while at the same time educating students in responsible cat ownership. We focused on problem solving around cat management issues, such as stray and feral cats, and how students could help solve the problem, using STEM processes of design.

Anna and Alyssa have a great team of volunteers on board. We would particularly like to acknowledge the significant contributions by Volunteers Maria Moore and Jeanette Gartlan. Maria has been with the Community and Education Team for many years and was an integral part of helping to revise our programs, streamline our resources, and present in schools. Jeanette Gartlan volunteers in many roles for Ten Lives. You will often find Jeanette at the Argyle St Op Shop or fostering a cat or kitten to directly help our cats. She has volunteered in one way or another with Ten Lives for many years.

If you are interested in being part of this great team we would love to hear from you.

For more information visit tenlives.com.au/volunteer



Happy Paws Happy Hearts participants helping out putting Meow Meal packs together

Meow Meals

You have probably heard about our successful initiative, Meow Meals. Carolyn Dunnewijk, our Operations Manager and her team, came up with the idea of giving out free bags of cat food to people who needed a bit of a hand. People will often go without themselves in favour of looking after their cat. Even still, people seem to be struggling, so helping them by providing some free cat food helps keep cats in their home. The families we are helping are very genuine about the care of their cat, and are very appreciative of our help.

Cat and kitten tummies have been filled up nearly 32,000 times since we launched the program. That is a lot of contented little kitties out there along with their happy families.

If you can help with donations of cat food, particularly kitten food, we would be very appreciative.



Southern Region Cat Management Coordinator

There is always news from the great work of our Southern Region Cat Management Coordinator, Dr Sara Balouch, but in this edition of the Scratching Post the really big news is the arrival of Janan! Congratulations to Sara on the arrival of beautiful baby Janan a few months ago.

While Sara is away with Janan, Alyssa Davies and Anna Viney are busy continuing excellent work of the Cat Management Coordinator. Anna is focusing on education in the schools and community, and Alyssa has been busy talking to Local Government and visiting areas in their communities to engage with people and gain an understanding of their cat welfare issues.



Hazell Bros have a great story!



Founded in 1944 by Donald and Rowley Hazell in Southern Tasmania, Hazell Bros began as a transport business, later expanding into earthmoving and civil construction. It grew across Tasmania, adding quarries and concrete plants, and by 2010 expanded to Victoria and Queensland, securing a major contract with Nyrstar Port Pirie in 2013.

Today Hazell Bros is led by second-generation brothers Geoffrey and Robert Hazell. Hazell Bros remains family-owned with core operations in Civil Construction, Quarries, and Industrial Services. The company employs 850 people and maintains a large fleet, focusing on safety, quality, and reliability.

When Ten Lives Ambassador, Dave Noonan, contacted Geoffrey

Hazell to see if they could help us with our project, they were quick to respond with a significant contribution by providing concrete for the slab. Now with the slab down the building is really moving ahead.

Geoffrey Hazell said Hazell Bros had a proud history in Tasmania and interstate. He said Hazell Bros was pleased to support an organisation such as Ten Lives, that carries out important animal welfare and community work.

With an impressive list of infrastructure projects under its belt it is no surprise that Hazell Bros is often recognised in state and national awards such as being named a Best Managed Company in 2021 and 2023 by Deloitte Australia, and the 2024 CCF Tasmania Commitment to Training award.

Their big heart and commitment are demonstrated by such actions as supporting workplace mental health research through their Mind Games sponsorship. They also collaborate with Lifeline on a domestic abuse awareness program.

These accomplishments highlight Hazell Bros' growth, community commitment, and focus on infrastructure, safety, and innovation.

Geoffrey, Robert and the Team at Hazell Bros have shown their dedication to their values time and time again, and we are grateful to them for their support and being part of Ten Lives' story.

See more at www.hazellbros.com.au



Judy spending some quality time with recent adoptee Lola.

Judy Whiteley is a dedicated member of the Ten Lives volunteer team, bringing her love for cats to both foster care and her role as an Animal Care Attendant. We asked Judy about her journey with Ten Lives, what she loves most about volunteering, and her advice for those thinking about joining our team.

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

I have been volunteering for two years now, firstly as a foster carer and now as an Animal Care Attendant at Ten Lives.

Why did you decide to volunteer with Ten Lives?

I have always been a “cat person”. After retiring I wanted to volunteer and this was a great fit for me to be able to help look

after the cats that transition through the centre looking for their forever home.

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

When not at the centre, I can be found cooking in my kitchen, at the gym and planning my next travel destination.

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

My time at Ten Lives usually includes feeding, completing health charts, cleaning litter trays and individual cat spaces for cats in both adoption and boarding areas. There is always lots of laundry, mopping and sweeping to be done as the Centre is fastidious about ensuring all cats have a clean space and bedding. Then restocking supplies as needed. Whilst doing all this it is also very important to spend time

with all the cats and kittens and provide lots of attention and love to them.

What surprised you most about volunteering with Ten Lives?

There are a couple of really surprising things I found when I started volunteering. Firstly, I love how every cat or kitten has a different story as to how they arrived at the Centre. The individual attention they each receive brings out the best in their personality to ultimately find their forever home. There is also a great team atmosphere for both staff and volunteers in looking after the cats. There are many roles at Ten Lives but they are all important and intertwine to look after every cat or kitten.

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

For anyone considering a cat I would certainly recommend adopting from Ten Lives as I did many years ago. Each cat has had its health checked. On many occasions a cat has spent time in foster, so much information about their personality, likes and dislikes is available. This helps a new owner make the best choice for their chosen cat.

Favourite fictional cat?

Definitely Garfield!

Finally, what advice would you give to anyone thinking of volunteering at Ten Lives?

If you have some time to volunteer, it is so rewarding in being able to help the cats and kittens. Spending time with them, having them purr and look for a head rub is wonderful and finally finding out that they have been adopted is such an awesome feeling.

Find out more about joining our team of fabulous foster carers and volunteers at tenlives.com.au

KITTEN CORNER

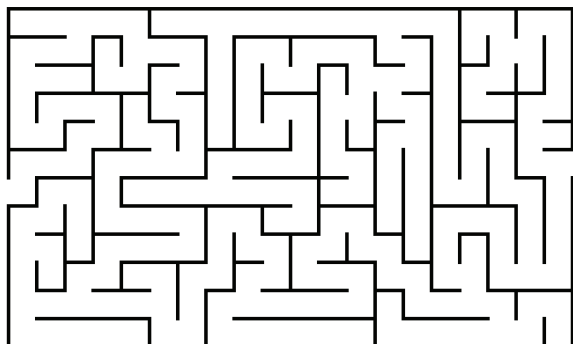


WORD SEARCH

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 J O V C M Q C E M P U Q M J E
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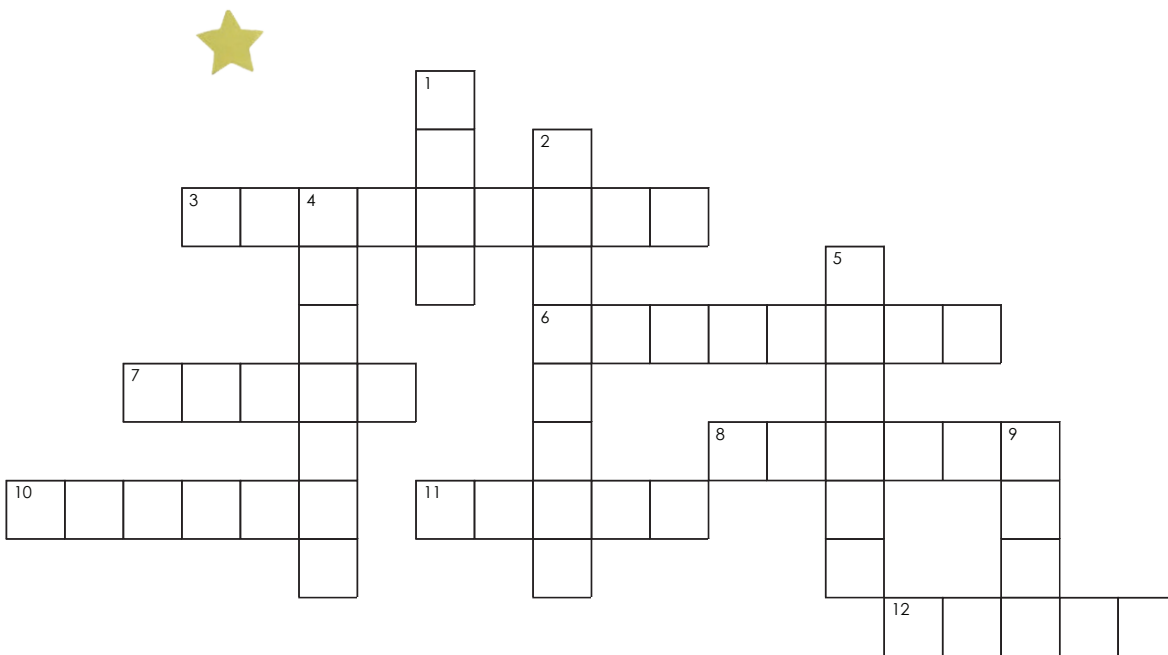
- CONTAINMENT
- ENRICHMENT
- MICROCHIP
- DESEX
- KITTEN
- LITTER
- WHISKERS
- MEOW
- PAWS
- POUNCE
- CATNIP
- TOYS
- PURR
- STRAY
- FELINE

Get involved with Ten Lives
 Check out how these students
 have helped the kitties here at
 Ten Lives.



**Year 7 Cosgrove High
 Grace show their new
 blankets they donate**

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across: →

- 3. Implant used to identify your cat
- 6. Cats spend a third of their lives _____
- 7. Cats like to sharpen their _____
- 8. Plant cats are attracted to
- 10. Leap or jump
- 11. A cat without a home
- 12. Number of eyelids a cat has

Down: ↓

- 1. Sound a cat makes to get your attention
- 2. Hairs used to sense their environment
- 4. A group of cats
- 5. A young cat
- 9. Sound a cat makes when they are happy

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s
at



School students Ebony, Chloe and their furry friend Clay the handmade bed for our kitties! Thanks so much!

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



Kallista's Quiet Charm Shines

Kallista, a stunning long-haired tabby with a squishy face and gentle nature, quickly won the hearts of everyone who crossed her path.

From the moment she arrived at the shelter, her beauty and sweet personality were evident. While she wasn't exactly a lap

cat, Kallista proved to be a loving companion who enjoyed quiet moments with her human friends. Once she settled in, she was content to sit beside her caregivers, purring softly and soaking up affection.

However, Kallista's journey wasn't without its challenges.

We discovered that she had increased breathing noise, especially when she inhaled deeply. This had been a long-standing issue since her younger years. After a thorough examination by our veterinary team, it was determined that there was no cause for concern. Despite her breathing noise,



Photos: Rachael Daniels

Kallista was in good health overall, and it didn't interfere with her daily life.

Kallista also needed dental surgery due to dental disease. After the necessary teeth were cleaned and removed, she began recovering well. With an appropriate diet and regular vet check-ups, her dental health improved, and we were optimistic that no further surgery would be necessary. However, we recommended annual dental monitoring to ensure her continued well-being.

During her time with us, Kallista proved to be a patient and affectionate cat. She was a bit shy at first, but once she felt comfortable, she began to shine. She was particularly fond of lounging in the afternoon sun in her kennel, where she would relax and enjoy the warmth. Kallista also became quite popular on social media, with her photogenic looks and calm demeanour captivating her followers. She wasn't one for much activity, but she enjoyed the occasional play session with toys or other cats once she had settled in.

Kallista's calm and gentle personality made her a shelter favourite, and on October 8th, after a couple of weeks in the adoption rooms, she was finally adopted into her forever home.

Her journey from a shy cat to a loving companion reminds us that with patience, compassion, and proper care, any cat - no matter their past - can find a second chance at happiness.

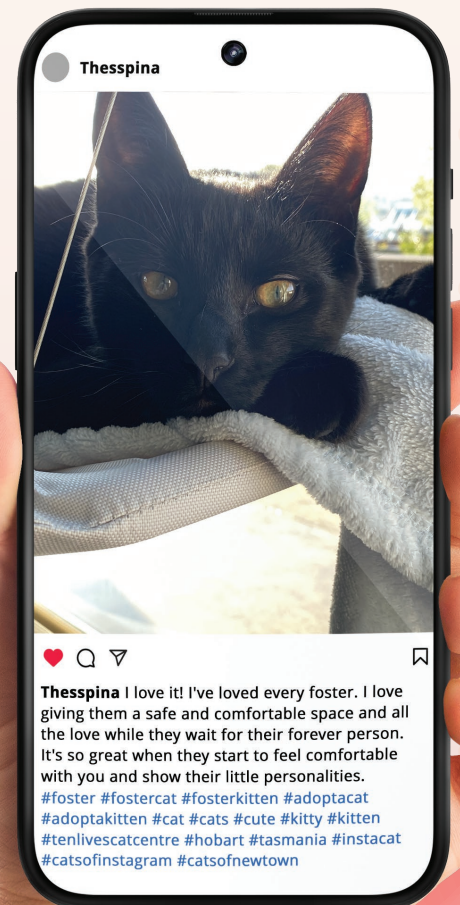
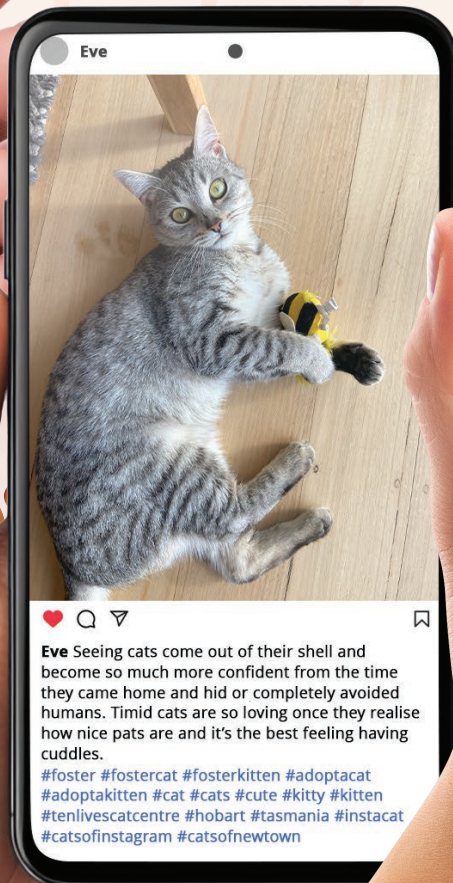
Kallista's story is a beautiful example of resilience, and we couldn't be happier for her as she starts this new chapter in her life.

A Fabulous Foster

The photos and stories foster carers share of their kitties are truly heartwarming, capturing the incredible transformations that happen in foster care. Each image tells a unique story of patience, dedication, and love, showing how even the most timid or vulnerable cats can blossom with the right support.

In the words of our foster carers, fostering is about watching kittens “grow, thrive, and become social,” and helping adult cats “become a better version of themselves.”

Each carer speaks of the joy and reward in seeing cats open up, gain trust, and let their



Foster Family Album

True personalities shine. For many, it's the satisfaction of seeing a previously fearful or traumatized cat find comfort, affection, and playfulness again.

These heartwarming stories and photos remind us that every cat and kitten has the potential to transform in a loving home, making the journey from timid to trusting, from fragile to flourishing. We are so grateful to our foster carers for being part of this transformation and for sharing these touching glimpses with us!

Join the family at tenlives.com.au/foster



CATWALK Challenge



Ten Lives Ten Day Catwalk Challenge

On October 1st, we kicked off our annual Ten Lives Ten Day Catwalk Challenge, aiming to raise \$10,000 in just ten days to cover emergency vet expenses for our foster cats, particularly as we prepare for the upcoming kitten season.

“Every kitten season, we need to allocate over \$10,000 for emergency after-hours vet services,” said CEO Noel Hunt. “This is in addition to managing our own Vet Surgery during regular hours, where we provide more than 10,000 treatments annually for the countless lost and abandoned cats and kittens that come into our care.”

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our participants, we raised an impressive \$7,305 during this year’s challenge, just shy of our goal. A huge thank you to all our Catwalkers, especially those who have returned for their fourth consecutive year, for creating such amazing social media content and for their ongoing commitment to this cause.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated, donated, and supported us through this initiative. Your generosity plays a vital role in ensuring that Ten Lives can continue to provide lifesaving medical care to the cats and kittens who need it most.

Thank you again for helping make this year’s challenge such a success!

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

10 TIPS TO HELP MANAGE YOUR CAT'S STRESS

- 1 Satisfy their urge to scratch**
This releases pheromones and makes them feel happy
- 2 Spacious, sparkling clean litter**
Because cats have high standards
- 3 Create a playground**
Keep them active and entertained
- 4 Give them a window seat**
Let them watch the world outside
- 5 Rewards for good behaviour**
Cats love appreciation
- 6 Help them reach new heights**
Cats love to climb up high and look down from above
- 7 Mind your place settings**
Keep food and litter trays in separate areas
- 8 A place away from it all**
Just like us, sometimes cats like to get away from it all
- 9 Plenty of the necessities**
Provide enough food, water and litter trays for each cat
- 10 Feed Prescription Diet c/d Multicare Stress**
To help manage stress related urinary episodes



Learn more about urinary nutrition
at HillsPet.com.au/UrinaryCare

(C) 2023 Hill's Pet Nutrition Inc. HIMA-DK-2314FFCO



IMLJ53083/0423

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



MAGGIE

"I was fostering for ten lives and Maggie came along and we fell head over heels in love with her. Maggie settled in like it was meant to be, with no problems at all. She was and still is such a playful girl. Maggie loves to be where her humans are. She keeps me company while I stitch whether it be awake playing with my threads or asleep beside me. She is always close by."

- Teena, Maggie's hoomin. Adopted September 2023

"I had been quietly looking online for about 6 months, but then checking the Ten Lives website every day for weeks to find the right fit for us! It was school holidays and our kids had no idea we were bringing a cat home. The kids declared their love immediately, and followed Nina around the house as she explored. We quickly realised that she likes having company while she eats, she loves playtime, and she is super gentle, friendly, and very well behaved."

- Sarah, Nina's hoomin. Adopted July 2024



NINA

Casper, Adopted May 2021



GYPSY, MAISY & DAISY

"I had lost 2 of my cats in a short space of time. I felt my 1 remaining cat Gypsy was lonely. I went to find her a friend and ended up adopting a mother and her 5 month old kitten. I thought they would be harder to get adopted so I chose them to bring home. I often find all 3 curled up in a bed together and grooming each other. My older cat has adopted them like her own babies."

- Deirdre, Gypsy, Maisy & Daisy's hoomin. Adopted Oct '22



GOOSE

"We ended up at Ten Lives to 'just have a look' and ended up falling in love with a cuddly ginger girl. When we first brought her home Goose wouldn't eat and would hide all day. We were so worried. But after a few days she got used to us and before you know it she was sleeping in the bed with her head on the pillow and cuddling us everytime we sat down. Goose loves to sleep on her goose shaped bed on a lazy Sunday afternoon." - Julia & Hannah, Goose's hoomins. Adopted March 2023



MICHAEL & HELEN

"I've been considering adding a new family member for about a year, to give my older cat a friend. My best friend and I have adopted a cat each from Ten Lives, so we have a tradition of having to accompany each other to any potential adoption visits, and she happened to be free on this day. I'd read Helen's description and she was the perfect kitten on paper (her Ten Lives name was Picnic"). Helen was the first kitten that ran up to us to say hello when we walked into the room, so she really picked me!"
- Jacki, Helen's hoomin. Adopted July 2024



MICAH

"I found him hidden at the back of the cat tower and I just instantly fell in love. He settled in to our family so well him and my toddler are like having two children running around and playing and of a night he sleeps on my bed."
- Terrisha, Micah's hoomin. Adopted February 2024



BIRDEE

"I came to the centre just to have a look as I had been thinking about adopting a new addition to our family and there I met Birdee and i instantly knew she had to become a part of our family. Birdee quickly settled in and became a part of our family. She is so cuddly and affectionate and has definitely become the centre of our family."
- Kirsty, Birdee's hoomin. Adopted June 2024

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.



Teach Responsible Cat Ownership with Edu.Cat

BOOK NOW FOR 2025



Edu.Cat is an exciting Australian-first Kinder – Year 7 Curriculum aligned feline education program focusing on fostering responsible cat ownership with the aim to create social change in how people care for cats and protect wildlife.

The Science and Technologies based program inspires students and empowers them to make positive choices in cat ownership.

The Edu.Cat program is **free** to all schools in Tasmania can be tailored to your students needs.

The program includes:

- 30/45 to 60 minute presentation
- Printable teacher resources
- Printable student workbooks
- Bookmark and certificate for students



For Bookings and Information

- 🌐 tenlives.com.au/educate
- ✉ edu.cat@tenlives.com.au
- 📞 03 6278 2111