



# 2024/25 IMPACT STATEMENT

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Prepared by Hobart Cat Centre Inc trading as Ten Lives

## OUR ORGANISATION

# 2024/25 IMPACT STATEMENT

## ALL THE WAYS TEN LIVES IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO CATS, THE COMMUNITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT HERE IN TASMANIA

### WHO WE ARE

Ten Lives is a self funded, not-for-profit animal welfare organisation, rehoming cats and kittens in Southern Tasmania. We also work to improve feline welfare and encourage responsible cat ownership.

### OUR HISTORY

Ten Lives has a proud history of more than 60 years of caring for the cats and kittens of Southern Tasmania. We started life as the Tasmanian Animal Protection Society. Founded by Joan Allport, it became a dedicated cat centre in 1974 under the leadership of Florence Robson. She had a vision to provide for all the cats and kittens of Hobart who needed shelter. The Hobart Cat Centre was located in Strickland Avenue, South Hobart until 2007. It then moved to 12 Selfs Point Road in New Town.

### OUR NAME

We changed our name to the Ten Lives Cat Centre in 2017 to better reflect who we are, what we do and where we do it: for cats, the environment and the community in Tasmania. As Ten Lives, we have a voice on a state, national and even international level as a leading cat management organisation.

### AIM

We provide and promote humane care for cats and kittens in Tasmania and act to reduce the number of stray, abandoned, and lost (including feral) cats to benefit our communities, cats and our environment.



‘Ten Lives’ is a play on the old English proverb that says, “A cat has nine lives. For three he plays, for three he strays and for the last three he stays.” We believe that when a cat comes to us, we give it one extra life, so it, in fact, has Ten Lives.

# 2024/25 IMPACT

## CAT CARE BY TEN LIVES

**1,886**

cats brought into our care

**53,766**

total nights of cat care

**11,884**

vet treatments - an average of

**6.54**

individual vet treatments with each cat

**107,532**

meals served to our cats

## FOSTER CARE

**279**

foster carers in their home provided

**38,155**

total nights of cat care

**76,310**

cat meals served in foster care

## ENVIRONMENT

### SHELTER

**69.8**

tonnes of litter used at the shelter and

**13,960**

plastic bags are now redirected from landfill through our litter recycling program

## OUTCOMES

**1,012**

cats adopted

**64**

lost cats reunited with their families

**259**

cats who were sick or injured beyond rehabilitation needing to be humanely euthanised

**455**

feral cats humanely euthanised that were trapped and brought into Ten Lives. Based on research findings<sup>1</sup> saving up to an estimated

**528,710**

native fauna, birds, mammals, lizards and frogs. Defining a cat's impact in Tasmania is more complicated than just applying these particular findings, that's why Ten Lives is heavily involved in cat management projects supported by research.

<sup>1</sup>The impacts of cats in Australia. (2020). Research findings fact sheet [Fact sheet]. Science for Saving species, Threatened Species Recovery Hub, National Environmental Science Programme (Project 1.1.2) <https://invasives.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Fact-sheet-The-impact-of-cats-in-Australia-Threatened-Species-Hub.pdf>

## OP SHOPS

**63.6 tonnes**

clothes diverted from landfill, stopping

**195 tCO<sub>2</sub> e**

from entering the atmosphere (equivalent to taking 83 cars off the road)

Source = ReuseCalculator-Charitable Reuse Australia. (nd)  
Both of these figures display a summary of the clothes and CO<sub>2</sub> diversion from op shops, generated by the Charitable Recycling Australia Calculator

**OPEN INTAKE SHELTER** Some shelters/rescues are selective with their intake. Ten Lives is an open intake shelter and we accept cats and kittens regardless of their health or condition.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### VOLUNTEERING

**307**

volunteers provided

**31,672**

hours of work across our shelter and op shops

### EDUCATION & TRAINING

**41,040**

school students in

**121**

schools received the Edu.Cat program since inception promoting responsible cat ownership for future generations

### HAPPY PAWS HAPPY HEARTS

**353**

sessions were enjoyed by participants, delivering

**1,400**

socialisation interactions with cats, providing

**700**

hours of enrichment for Ten Lives cats

### COMMUNITY SURRENDER DAY TRIALS

**5**

community surrender days trialled

**25**

cats surrendered. Mostly not microchipped or desexed, and pregnant queens

## HELPING FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY WITH CATS

**13**

abandoned cats brought into our care by good samaritans

**135**

families assisted that had no accommodation, landlord issues or needed to go into protective housing

**62**

cats came into our care from people with ill health, infirmity or had passed away

**31**

cats came into our care from people with financial problems

**39**

cats given another chance for a forever home came from people that received an unwanted gift or made a bad choice

**252**

cats came into our care from hoarding and squalor situations

**1081**

stray cats taken in from the community

### MEOW MEALS

**1,590**

Meow Meals packs providing

**22,260**

meals for cats for owners in need, helping keep cats at home

**THERE IS NO TIME LIMIT, THERE IS NO COST LIMIT** Our decisions for treatment of a cat in our care are made on the specific, individual circumstances, ensuring all humane, veterinary and world best practice considerations are taken into account for the best outcome for the cat.

# 2024/25 OVERVIEW

## REHOMING ALL REHOMABLE ANIMALS

### ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

Ten Lives is an open intake shelter and we accept all cats and kittens regardless of their health or condition.

All cats are assessed by experienced vets and animal welfare staff. Our formal ethical decision making process ensures that all aspects of the cat's situation are considered, using veterinary and research based behaviour assessments.

We emphasise a responsible approach to adoptions and ensuring adopters are aware of all the long term commitments that go along with welcoming a cat or kitten into your home. Our low return rate reflects the responsible and caring approach we take in adoptions.

### TAKING ON THE DIFFICULT CASES:

## EWOK'S PATHWAY TO HEALING

Arriving at Ten Lives in January as part of a large intake from a hoarding situation, Ewok's condition called for close attention. Though bright and curious, she had several early health concerns that needed careful management to give her the best chance to thrive.

Placed into foster care, Ewok began her recovery with the support of the veterinary team. A painful ulcer on her tongue required medication, monitoring, and eventual surgery, followed by several reviews under anaesthesia as it healed. She also had a heart murmur that needed ongoing checks, and later required a second procedure to remove baby teeth that had not fallen out on their own. Periods of mild sneezing and oral irritation added to the months of treatment, tailored nutrition, and regular vet visits.

Throughout it all, Ewok remained social and full of personality. She played, explored, and curled up happily with her foster carers, and was confident around other cats, dogs, and people. By the end of April she was cleared for adoption, a healthy and energetic young cat now thriving in a home of her own.

## FERAL CATS

Feral cats make up a large part of our open intake, with 30% of that intake coming to us in traps. Using researched processes, each cat is assessed by numerous people including an experienced vet using our ethical decision making process.

This part of our work is a sad and difficult undertaking that the Ten Lives team accept as a responsibility of humane animal welfare and protecting our environment.



**It is our priority to make sure every cat has the best possible opportunity to live free from suffering and fear.**

## OPERATIONS

# WORLD CLASS SHELTER

Every year we provide tens of thousands of days of care, and thousands of vet treatments and surgeries, while taking in cats and kittens that are stray or unable to be kept by their owners for reasons of ill health or homelessness.

We have a dedicated operations team that form the backbone of how we provide the best possible care for our cats, support our community on cat management and related issues, and help to protect our environment.

## OUR PEOPLE

# THE TEAM

- Independent board Members
- Highly qualified staff and volunteers - animal care, creative, education, op shop, retail and administration
- Dedicated vets and vet nurses
- Foster carers having the cats cared for in homes until they're ready for adoption.



**279** volunteer foster carers



**307** volunteers at shelter and op shops



**27,691** social media followers



## FACILITIES

### BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Our new building and facility upgrades are largely completed, and we expect to be fully operating from the upgraded spaces by Christmas 2025.

The hospital area has been extended for additional veterinary and daily care space. The updated layout now provides separate areas for retail, adoptions, surrenders and reclaims, along with an improved consultation room and upgrades to the hospital wing.

These changes support more efficient operations and even better care for our cats.



EDU.CAT

# EDU.CAT – TEACHING TASMANIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES ABOUT RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP

We have reviewed and revised our Edu. Cat program so that it continues to meet the contemporary needs of students and educators and deliver our important animal welfare messages.

The program meets the latest version of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA).

We offer Edu.Cat to all Tasmanian schools, with our volunteer educators delivering sessions and comprehensive class materials to children in kinder to year 7 classes. Australian-first curriculum-aligned feline education program uses STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).

# MEOW MEALS

We have been able to continue the “Meow Meals” Feline Food Assistance Program that we commenced in April 2024.

Recognising the challenges faced by individuals and families who struggle to afford basic necessities for their cats, the program provides essential food assistance to help owners retain their pets and support their wellbeing, while also opening conversations about responsible cat ownership.



# HAPPY PAWS HAPPY HEARTS

Ten Lives and partners Happy Paws Happy Hearts offer a unique community program promoting inclusion and happiness for the participants. The program is guided by Program Trainers where participants can break down personal barriers by working with animals through fun, curated programs.

For the participants this is supporting increased social connection and confidence for improved wellbeing. This also forms part of Ten Lives cat enrichment program to achieve the best possible outcomes for our cats and kittens.



## TAKING ON THE DIFFICULT CASES:

# PEACOCK'S QUIET RESILIENCE

Peacock's journey is one of gentle resilience. When he arrived in late July, the shy black and white cat was found to have severe dental disease that required major surgery, including the removal of multiple teeth. He remained in care for several months to recover, and was also diagnosed with a sensitive gastrointestinal system, so his diet was carefully managed to keep him comfortable.

As his health improved, Peacock slowly gained confidence, revealing a soft, affectionate nature marked by happy kneading and quiet purrs. After three months of treatment and recovery, he blossomed into a loving companion ready for a calm, caring home.

# CAT MANAGEMENT

## CAT MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Ten Lives is continuing to expand our community outreach work that commenced with the Southern Region Cat Management Coordinator being hosted within the Ten Lives team.

A key achievement has been the increased engagement of local councils across Southern Tasmania in cat management initiatives.

Working with councils, community organisations and state agencies, Ten Lives delivers community based programs that support responsible cat management.

Public education is central to this work, with Ten Lives delivering education within schools and engaging the public at events including Agfest, the AVA Conference and community events and initiatives. This supports the Southern Regional Cat Management Strategy by linking education and community engagement.

## COMMUNITY CAT MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Ten Lives began its first major community project on Bruny Island in 2016 with partners including Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Kingborough Council, NRM South, Bruny Farming and the weetapoona Aboriginal Corporation.

Since then, Ten Lives has delivered a wide range of community cat management projects across Southern Tasmanian councils, including Richmond and Midway Point.

These projects involve engagement with the local community through organisations such as neighbourhood houses, community centres and local housing providers. Ten Lives has also trialled a series of community surrender days, attending suburbs with identified need to offer more accessible support for people who may need to surrender their cats.

These projects improve cat welfare and support responsible cat ownership.



## OUR COMMITMENT

**ONE OF OUR MAJOR AIMS IS TO LOOK AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT.**

We're constantly working to improve the ways we do things at the Centre that benefit the environment.

- Solar panels
- Litter diversion from landfill
- Efficient washing and drying machines
- Eliminating waste by reuse of goods through our Op Shop Network

SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION - MONEY AND OTHER SUPPORT

# FUNDRAISING

**MOST PEOPLE DON'T REALISE THAT WE'RE A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION AND WE DON'T RECEIVE ANY DEDICATED STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING.**

Local Government support was welcomed this year, reflecting growing recognition of our role in cat management.

Ten Lives still needs to raise over 95% of our costs, so most of our money comes from the generosity of people who support our successful op shops, our popular retail store on site here at the Centre or through financial donations.

Every dollar raised for specific causes goes directly to pay for that project or cat; none is used for administration costs.



## RETAIL

### OP SHOPS

We have four op shops run by enthusiastic, skilled volunteers – at Margate, North Hobart, New Norfolk and Moonah. A fifth Op Shop is opening in Rosny Park in July 2025. These contribute significantly to our income and are part of our plan to remain financially sustainable.

The shops are a great place to rummage for a unique find, pick up your essential pet supplies or meet the resident kitty for adoption.



### OUR PET SUPPLIES RETAIL SHOP

We have a shop at Ten Lives where people can buy their cat essentials including quality cat food, litter, toys, beds, bowls, carriers, treatments, harnesses and cat-related gifts.



### WHERE THE MONEY GOES

100% OF EVERY DOLLAR RAISED GOES DIRECTLY TO THE CARE OF OUR CATS AND KITTENS OR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS DONATED.





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