

scratchingpost

Magazine of  TenLives

Winter 2026

**Every cat,
every story:**
Thank you for
helping write them

**Lights, camera,
adoption:**
Telling tails from
the marketing office

One of the gang:
Creating belonging
for Maxxy

The Eras Tour:
We talk to the team



A Golden Celebration Commemorative 50th Anniversary 8-Page Feature



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A Golden Celebration Commemorative 90th Anniversary 8-Page Feature

Cover

Model: Charlie Brown, Sally & Peppermint Patty

Photographer: Rachael Daniels

On December 5th 2025, seven week old Charlie Brown came into the care of Ten Lives with his siblings Linus, Lucy, Peppermint Patty, Sally and Schroeder. After time in foster care to grow big enough to be desexed, Charlie Brown and the 'Peanuts' litter made their way to the adoption rooms on January 13th 2026 and found their forever homes the next day!



Charlie Brown in foster care with his siblings

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



Ten Lives CEO, Noel Hunt, with Sorell Mayor Janet Gatehouse and Bill Harvey from Landcare Tasmania at the launch of the Dodges Ferry Community Cat Management Survey

CEO's Corner

This edition of the Scratching Post is a great snapshot of where things are at right now at Ten Lives.

We've now settled into our expanded spaces, and while there's still a bit to do, it's already making a real difference. Not just for the cats, but for all the people who care for them.

What you'll read in these articles always comes back to people. The volunteers who show up week after week at the shelter and our op shops. The foster carers opening their homes. The operations and veterinary teams working across the shelter and out in the community. And our wonderful supporters who help make it all possible.

That work is showing up in different ways. Through initiatives such as Meow Meals, programs like Happy Paws Happy Hearts, and our Community Cat Management Projects, it's all part of the same approach, finding practical ways to support cats while working alongside, and with the support of, the community.

As we look ahead to the next 50 years, it's a good reminder that none of this happens on its own. It never has. It's always been people coming together, finding a way to help, and making sure we're here to continue supporting people, the planet and pussycats.

Noel Hunt, CEO

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Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt giving a speech at the grand opening



Supporters at a behind-the-scenes tour



We reused the same fitout from the previous shop



The new shop counter



The new kitten room

A New Era for Ten Lives

Long awaited upgrades at Ten Lives have officially launched!

In January 2026, supporters of Ten Lives were invited to a grand opening and site tour to see the changes in person.

These improvements mark the beginning of a new era for Ten Lives as we continue our mission of helping people, the planet and pussycats.

The centre features brand new adoption rooms, an on-site X-ray machine and upgraded hospital facilities. Together, these additions benefit the cats and kittens in our care, the dedicated staff and volunteers who support them, and the many wonderful people who visit the centre.

These changes are the result of careful planning, patience and generosity, and we're incredibly grateful to the supporters who made it all possible.

We are especially thankful to those who donated to the Kennels of Kindness program. We are close to finalising the permanent adoption kennels, an upgrade we are all excited for.

We're committed to showing that when the community supports Ten Lives, we put that support where it counts.

A bigger, brighter adoption space

The new adoption rooms offer a bigger, brighter, more comfortable environment. Since opening the space, the community (and kitty!) response has been nothing but praise!

This new space means a new entrance. Rather than entering through the blue building at the end of the driveway, you simply turn right after passing through the main gate. A black airlock gate sits in front of the new adoption suite entrance.

Inside, you're welcomed into a



New facilities means better care for kitties like Orson

warm, well lit area that combines the Ten Lives shop and the adoption kennels, creating a seamless layout that keeps everything together. The friendly reception team is near the entrance to answer questions and help match visitors with their purrfect feline companion.

Having the adult cats front and centre has resulted in their adoptions happening faster!

Further down the main space is a door to what has quickly become the most popular room in the building: the kitten room! This cheerful space gives kittens plenty of room to play and explore, with access to a secure outdoor deck where they can enjoy fresh air.

Bringing X-ray in-house

Another exciting addition we're proud to show off is the new X-ray facility, something we've never had on site before.

Most cats dislike travelling in vehicles, so being able to conduct X-rays on-site means more prompt treatment and a

less stressful experience.

"The X-ray machine enables us to meet Veterinary Board requirements for external work," Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt said. "This creates new opportunities, including partnerships with local government to deliver community programs."

Our vet team has found the X-ray machine valuable in helping them with their diagnoses so they can provide the best care in the most efficient way.

Better facilities for better care

The new adoption area coincides with upgraded hospital facilities, improving the efficiency of the hospital, reducing noise and movement, and creating a smoother, calmer environment for cats in our care.

"It's fantastic," Noel says. "The team are really thrilled. They work extremely hard in a very challenging environment; there's so many cats and kittens coming into our care all the time."

"We don't know whether we'll get 10 or 30 cats and kittens coming in on any given day."

Noel is proud of the team's hard work, saying, "The team here, with the support of the community, are getting the job done and doing the heavy lifting looking after the cats and kittens, making a big difference for the community, making a big difference for the environment."

The upgrades allow Ten Lives to support more animals, and support them better, with the incredible network of volunteers and foster carers.

If you haven't yet seen the new adoption rooms, we'd love you to drop in, look around and, of course, say hello to the kitties!

Photos below from their first photo published in the Scratching Post magazine.



CAT CENTRE THE ERAS TOUR

“10 desk moves in 12 years!”

Now that we've settled in to the new space, we caught up with the team to talk about the latest era during their time at the Cat Centre.

Joel first walked through the gates as a volunteer in 2009 and has been a staff member since 2014.

“What we used to class as ‘out the back’ is now somewhere in the middle of the new adoption rooms!”

Joel has seen many ‘era’s’ during his time at the Cat Centre as Marketing Manager.

“I’ve had 10 desk moves in 12 years,” he said. “I’ve been setting myself up in any corner of the building that hasn’t been needed for the cats and kittens!”

He has now found his forever office, and he says it was well worth the wait.

“I can finally unpack!”

Cindy was a foster carer and volunteer before becoming an animal attendant in 2016, while also volunteering with the vet team!

“The best thing about the new adoption area is not having to walk all around the building to get to wash bay,” she says with a laugh.

Joking aside, Cindy believes the changes have made a real difference for

the felines.

“I think it’s lovely the kittens have now got that big, dedicated space.”

Maggie has been volunteering as an animal attendant since 2018.

“It was five or six years ago that we were first told there were going to be renovations, and I remember we had a big team meeting about it,” Maggie recalls.

The new adoption rooms have already created countless meaningful moments between cats and their new families, something Maggie has witnessed herself.

“I think the fact we’re adopting out up to 30 cats a week is amazing. That’s 30 families in Hobart nearly every single week coming home with a new pet they’re going to love!”

Carolyn hasn’t been here as long as some others, but as Operations Manager she says it feels great to finally unveil the changes.

“Giving the kittens their own space in hospital has made life easier and less stressful for the adults,” Carolyn explains.

“I’ve definitely seen from the vet team how much the upgrades have benefited them.”

Looking ahead, she’s particularly excited about getting new kennels in the adoption rooms. While the new adoption rooms are already being used, the new kennels themselves are still to come.

Kate joined the team in 2023 and as a trainer will be a very well known face to every volunteer and foster carer and lots of adopters!

Her observations from working in the new space:

“It’s lovely to be able to engage with the people interacting with the cats,” Kate says.

“We are also more available to answer questions and be more involved in ensuring cats find their perfect human.”

As with any major change, the team have had to adjust to take full advantage of the new facilities, and have done a marvellous job adapting.

Your support has delivered real outcomes for our cats.

Our team has done an incredible job turning that support into real impact and making the most of every opportunity. It’s now opening the door to even more ways we can support their care.

Thank you for your continued support and helping make it happen.



Telling Tails from the Marketing Office

Lachlan was the first kitty to be available for adoption from the new marketing office

Thanks to the recent upgrades at Ten Lives, we have been able to reintroduce one of our most popular initiatives: welcoming a kitty for adoption into the marketing office!

Similar to our CEOs (Cat Executive Officers), these cats are selected to spend time in an environment where they receive a quieter space along with extra one on one attention while waiting for adoption.

These initiatives are designed to support cats who may not thrive in the busy adoption rooms, or who simply benefit from a quieter space and closer interaction with staff and volunteers.

The marketing office has moved to the old kitten adoption space, allowing us to have a 'Marketing Office Cat', who can enjoy the peaceful setting while helping us

share their story.

The first to step into the role in mid-December was Lachlan, a graceful nine year old longhaired white cat. Inquisitive and observant, Lachlan would quietly assess the room before settling in with the team. While he could be shy initially, he enjoyed spending his days alongside staff, offering gentle company and the occasional inspection of paperwork and keyboards.

Next came Penny, a six year old black and white lady with a stocky build. An absolute delight, she loved weaving around legs for a snuggle. Penny had the shortest stint of all: she was adopted after just one day!

Astroboy, an 11 month old with the most amazing tail was initially reluctant to leave his bed, it didn't take long to reveal a confident and outgoing personality. Before long, it felt like he was running the

place! His expressive face and impressively fluffy tail kept the team entertained throughout the day.



Astroboy was a lot of fun, and very fluffy!

Pip was the first Marketing Office Cat of 2026 and quickly became a bit of a main character. This ten month old tabby had striking green eyes had spent a total of three months up for adoption. Bringing her into the studio helped shine a spotlight on her while she waited for a home.



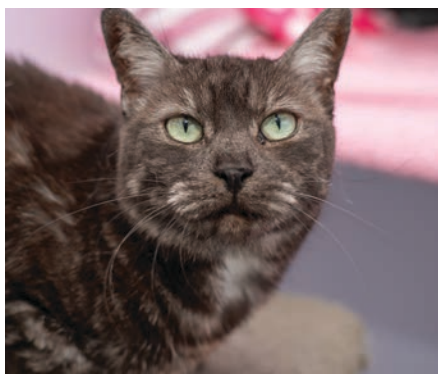
Pip eyeing off the Chupa Chups!

A total silly goose with a very strong purrrsonality, Pip was curious, confident and always up to something. She'd sneak wrapped lollipops from the bowl and stash them in random spots, curl up on her very own laptop bag, and even sit in on meetings.



Pip in a meeting with Peter and Joel

The graceful Melody, a beautiful nine year old smoky tabby who just needed some extra time and space to come out of her shell, made her a perfect fit for the role. She loved giving gentle head boops and quietly resting beside people.



Melody was a really pretty lady

The team's biggest challenge was Frankfurt, he'd already been in care for 105 days before he moved in!



Frankfurt making sure the paperwork is in order

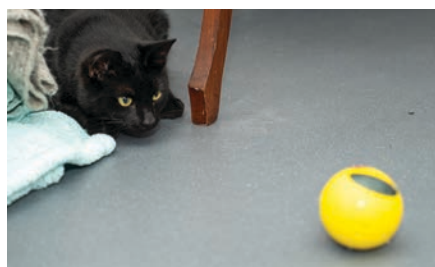
The biggest challenge with him was he had the same expression in every photo! We quickly turned into a positive which gained him a loyal following on social media, thanks to his permanently grumpy expression and one tattered ear! Despite his stern appearance, he was affectionate and loved being close to people.

Frankfurt was followed by a bit of a parade of black cats.



Jensen really came out of his shell

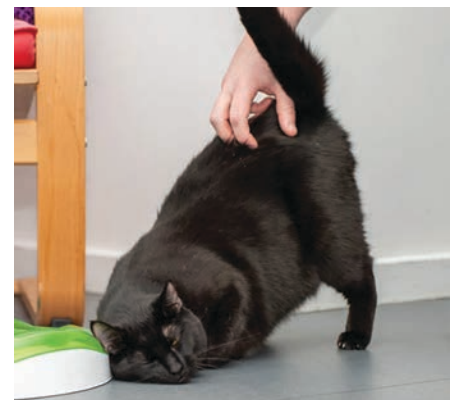
Six year old Jensen was next, a shy boy with an amusingly fussy personality. He kept the team entertained with his many quirks.



Sprout playing with a ball in the marketing office

Sprout didn't stay long. The one year old was adopted soon after arriving, but he certainly made an impression! An active, playful boy who loved to run and explore, he made the most of the extra space straight away. (Read more about Sprout on page 26)

The delightfully chonky Belladonna had been shy in the adoption rooms but quickly blossomed in the marketing office. She loved a good butt scratch and had a hilarious habit of flopping onto the floor and rolling around whenever she received attention.



Belladonna went crazy for butt scratches!

All these stories show that having a cat embedded in the marketing office comes with a clear advantage. With cameras and content creation happening daily, the team can capture authentic moments that help potential adopters connect with each cat's true personality.

We are pleased to share that all of these cats have found their forever homes. Their time in the marketing office not only provided them with extra care and attention but helped us tell their stories in a way that resonated with the community.

Check out our socials to see who the latest marketing kitty is, and you can find all the cats and kittens currently for adoption at tenlives.com.au/adopt

Marketing works!

Words: Ten Lives Marketing Team



Rachael Photography



Dr Emma hard at work



Clem from the vet team

Behind Every Cat...

Casey captured the hearts of everyone in the final months of 2025. At eight years old, his sweet, photogenic face and playful demeanour quickly made him a fan favourite.

His story is part of something much bigger.

Behind every cat at Ten Lives is an incredible team of volunteers and staff who help them on their journey from arrival to adoption.

Casey was surrendered to us on 25 August 2025. When he first arrived, he was welcomed by the reception team at the front counter.

This team ensures cats, kittens, team members and the public are supported from the moment they walk through the door.

They keep appointments running

smoothly, answer questions and process incoming kitties, among many other things!

After being taken into our care, Casey had a veterinary assessment to determine his health needs.

At 7.8kg, he needed to lose some weight, so he was placed on a diet to support his journey.

The vet team make sure every cat receives the highest standard of care. They medically treat cats and kittens during their time at the shelter, setting them up for their forever home.

Once he was ready, Casey moved into foster care, where he was looked after by a foster carer.

Foster care is a vital part of our mission. A calm home environment helps shy cats build



Volunteer Animal Attendant volunteer Judy introducing herself to Marketing Cat, Bruno

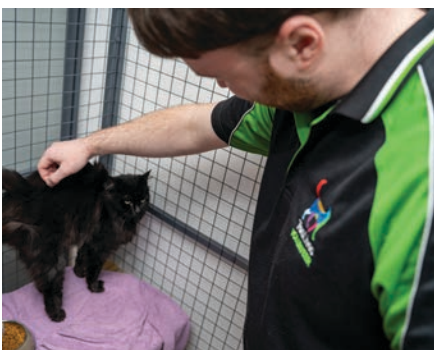
confidence, gives kittens space to grow and play, and provides the perfect setting for recovery after surgery or illness.

Every foster carer receives professional training, along with all the supplies they need. Even short-term fostering makes an enormous difference, and each placement is carefully matched to suit the carer's household and experience.

It was in foster care that Casey's purrsonality began to shine!

This handsome gentleman turned out to be quite the chatty smoocher.

Friendly and affectionate, Casey loved attention and wasn't shy about sharing his thoughts. He'd greet you with a cheerful meow and curl up beside you for company.



Volunteer Animal Attendant volunteer Tom feeding Pudding in the adoption rooms



Casey moved into the adoption rooms on 10 October to begin his search for a forever home.

This is where the animal care team step in, helping with daily care such as feeding, cleaning kennels, laundry, washing litter trays and restocking supplies.

Once essential tasks are completed, they can give enrichment and companionship to the cats, helping them feel comfortable in their spaces.

People loved to spend extra time with Casey.

This step of Casey's journey was guided by the retail team in the shop and adoption rooms, who match kitties with the right families.

Of course, every cat and kitten needs their moment in the spotlight.

The creative team, made up of volunteer photographers, writers, designers and social media contributors, make sure each cat is presented at their best. Those adorable photos and stories help potential adopters fall in love before they walk through the door.

After spending some time in the adoption rooms, Casey was moved to one of our op shops.

The five Ten Lives op shops raise vital funds through selling preloved treasures, and often they house cats awaiting adoption!

Our wonderful op shop volunteers sort, price and display items, greet customers, create eye catching displays and, of course, care for

resident cats like Casey.

Casey moved to our North Hobart Op Shop on Argyle Street, where he quickly won over both volunteers and customers.



The creative team had some fun photoshopping him in silly situations to help get more eyes on him!

Then, on 31 December, the last day of the year, it finally happened: Casey found his people.

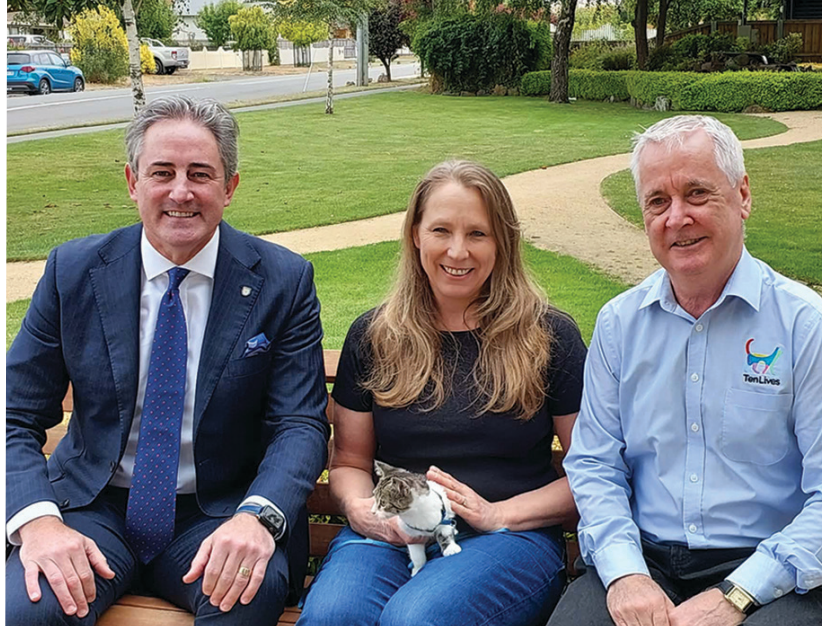
A perfect way to end the year!

From the moment he arrived to when he was adopted, Casey's journey shows that every cat takes a full team of people, each vitally important in their own way.

There are so many ways you can be part of that journey too.

Find out more about volunteering, foster caring and other ways you can help by visiting our website at tenlives.com.au

Community Cat Management Projects on the Move: Richmond, Dodges Ferry & Sandford



L-R: City of Clarence Mayor Brendan Blomeley, Ten Lives foster carer Angela Swan, and Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt

We love cats, and they are an important part of our community. That's why our community cat management work focuses on practical, considered approaches that deliver the best outcomes for cats, the community and the environment.

Work continues in Richmond along with new projects in Dodges Ferry and Sandford.

These projects support our triple bottom line helping People, the Planet... and Pussycats. The goal is to promote responsible cat ownership, reduce the number of stray cats coming into our care, and protect local wildlife.

We are pleased to be partnering with Clarence and Sorell councils and other local organisations including Landcare Tasmania.

Collaboration is essential to



L-R: Sorell Mayor Janet Gatehouse, Landcare Tasmania Chair Bill Harvey and Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt

delivering these projects and achieving meaningful outcomes in the community.

Our approach to cat management has been refined through successful past initiatives in Bruny Island, Richmond and Midway Point. They begin with consultation and data collection to understand the scale of the issue, and from there, tailored strategies are developed to address challenges specific to the area.

We began working with the Richmond community back in 2020. It is how we developed what we call the Richmond Process. As Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt explains, "The project took a proactive, community based approach to managing cats, rather than relying solely on the shelter."

In February 2026, another stage of the project commenced, delivered in partnership with the City of Clarence. It involved going back to the community with a survey to gather further observations about the local cat population to see how it is now.

In April 2026, we launched a new project in Dodges Ferry. Building on the success of the Midway Point project, this initiative is a collaboration between Ten Lives, Sorell Council, Landcare Tasmania and the Southern

Beaches Landcare Coastcare group. Also, it's great to have Birchgrove Feline Assistance offering to help out where they can. This makes it a real community project.

"Dodges Ferry was chosen due to its high conservation value, rich native flora and important wildlife habitat," Noel said. "Roaming and feral cats pose a significant threat to local species, making responsible cat management a priority for the region."

In May 2026, a community cat management project was announced for Sandford. This project brings together Ten Lives, the Sandford Cat Management Group, the City of Clarence and Landcare Tasmania to better understand and manage the impact of cats across Sandford and the South Arm Peninsula.

The Sandford Cat Management Group approached Ten Lives to provide specialist support as Tasmania's leading cat management facility, ensuring expert guidance.

Together, these three projects show how much progress we're making in the community.

Ten Lives remains committed to practical solutions that protect cats, the environment and our communities.



A Golden Celebration

Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO hosted a Reception at Government House on Tuesday 2 December 2025 to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Ten Lives Cat Centre. As Patron of Ten Lives, the Governor welcomed staff, volunteers, foster carers and supporters for the occasion.

The evening celebrated 50 years of caring for cats in Tasmania and included the presentation of Life Membership to Tammy Eastley and Robyn Tacey.



*Tammy
Eastley*

Tammy Eastley began working and volunteering at the Hobart Cat Centre in 1985. She started at South Hobart as a teenager and was part of the move to Selfs Point Road. Tammy has been a loyal and long serving volunteer who approaches her tasks with a smile and a positive spirit. She is very reliable, and she is appreciated by all who work with her.



*Robyn
Tacey*

Robyn Tacey began volunteering at the Blackmans Bay Op Shop in 2000 and later guided the relocation of the shop to Margate in 2007, where she took on the volunteer manager role. Robyn's dedication and experience have helped the Margate shop flourish, and her knowledge continues to support the wider network of opportunity shops.



Elise Coxhell, Callum Werner, Dr Emily Williams, Cindy Fagg



*Tanya and Michael Styles,
Rosemary and Michael Seddon*



*Andrea Marquardt,
Edward Harry and Chris Harry-Jones*



Lyn Webster, David Rees, Arthur and Lee Jones

Pat Baric, Jayme Ellem, Sonia Hirte, Amanda Carson



Sylvia Pearton, Brigitta Phillips, Bronwyn Limbrick, Leanne Cook, Elaine Davis, Jeanette Gartlan



Leonie Groombridge, Dawn Crawford, Peter Ennever, Richard and Shirley Forcey



*Andrew Pinner and Kirsten Kuns,
Heather Salisbury, Anne-Marie Stranger*



*Stephanie Hayes, Franky Atkinson,
Rebecca Cordwell*



Lyn Young, Bronwyn Limbrick, James Ennever



Bryan Lane and Cathy Fontaine



Marcia Calder, James Hunt, Leanne Hunt, Maryte Mikelaitis



Tara Turner, Andrew Lyden, Robyn Tacey



John and Susan Wright



Belinda and Andrew Hebbink



Foodbank Tasmania CEO Cameron Johns and Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt with a delivery of cat food donations



Kevin exploring the Happy Paws room

A Short Stay: A Lasting Impact

The arrival of a Happy Paws Happy Hearts (HPHH) session room cat is always met with excitement—and Kevin was no exception.

A relaxed and affectionate older gentleman, Kevin had already won over participants during his time in the Ten Lives adoption building. Known for his calm nature and love of connection, he would happily settle onto a cushion on participants' laps, soaking up gentle pats and quiet admiration.

When Kevin became the HPHH Session Room cat, participants thoughtfully prepared the space with soft bedding and enrichment to help him feel safe and welcome. He quickly made himself at home, moving affectionately between participants and enjoying moments of closeness with them throughout the session.

In a wonderful turn of events, within just a couple of hours, Kevin met his new family and even sweeter, HPHH participants were able to witness the adoption firsthand, celebrating this special moment with him.

While brief, Kevin's time in the room was incredibly special. For participants, it was a meaningful opportunity to be part of Kevin's journey, from welcome to adoption, reinforcing the role they play in creating positive, supportive experiences for cats in care.

A short stay, but a very sweet one—for both hearts and paws.

An Enduring Partnership

Ten Lives has received a large donation of cat food for the Meow Meals program, to help relieve owners experiencing financial hardship. The recent March donation comes from Foodbank Tasmania, a long supporter of the program.

Foodbank Tasmania's support of Ten Lives and the Meow Meals program began with their first delivery of cat food on 16 July 2025. They have since become a regular donor.

"Foodbank has supported Ten Lives over the years, and this donation helps ensure people doing it tough do not have to choose between feeding themselves or their pets," said the CEO of Foodbank Tasmania, Cameron Johns.

These donations help keep cats in homes and prevent surrenders to the Cat Centre.

Launched in early 2024, the Meow Meals program had handed out over 1,590 meal packs of cat food, providing over 44,520 individual meals, to financially struggling households within its first year.

"Cost of living pressures mean some people go without essentials themselves to make sure their pets are fed," said Ten Lives CEO Noel Hunt.

Meow Meals is as much about fostering a sense of community as it is about feeding cats. It's the regular donations from generous individuals and organisations like Foodbank Tasmania that keep the program running, allowing it to continue helping financially struggling owners keep their pets within the family.

With community support, the Meow Meals program can keep more cats in homes in the face of financial hardship.

To find out how you can donate or get help through the Meow Meals program, you can contact Ten Lives on 6278 2111.

Words: Phoebe Ody, Ten Lives Creative Volunteer



Since January 2023, Happy Paws Happy Hearts (HPPH), a national not-for-profit connecting socially isolated people with animals in need, has been proud to deliver its unique, purpose-led programs from the Ten Lives Cat Centre.

Each week, participants of all abilities come together at the Cat Centre to connect, learn and grow alongside the cats and kittens in care.

Participants join small group, hands on sessions within a real shelter environment, where they learn practical skills in animal care with a focus on cat welfare, while building confidence, independence and social connection. At the same time, the cats in care benefit from increased socialisation, enrichment and positive human interaction, helping their journey towards finding their new homes.

Many participants come for the cats, but stay for the sense of belonging, community and friendships they find along the way.

What makes this partnership so special is the way impact flows in both directions.

For participants, caring for the cats can be an incredibly powerful experience as they learn to read feline body language and gently build trust within the shelter environment. These moments often translate into increased confidence in everyday life, stronger skills in patience and communication, and a renewed sense of purpose.

For the cats, each interaction helps build familiarity and comfort with people. It's in these shared moments that real change happens, for people, and for paws.

Since 2023, Happy Paws Happy Hearts participants have contributed over 2,000 hours of hands-on care, supporting more than 4,000 meaningful interactions with cats and kittens in session.

“One of the Gang” Creating Belonging for Maxxy

In HPPH programs, the session room becomes more than just a space for animal interactions. These moments become part of a shared journey of growth; and for the cats, a meaningful step on their path towards adoption.

With the new airlock enabling safe exploration in the HPPH session room, participants have taken pride in creating a warm, welcoming space, for both the cats and the potential adopters who pass by.

Maxxy, a 7 year old long haired domestic male, was the first cat chosen to be available for adoption in the HPPH session

room, where rather than remain in his pen, he could be involved in the sessions and roam freely to explore the space and boop lots of new friends (participants).

Participants decided to transform the whiteboard into a space that would help tell his story, thinking about how best to present Maxxy to those who might be considering giving him a home. Together, they added his photo and carefully chose words to describe his personality.

When the Friday group were asked how they would describe Maxxy, one participant, Rohan (pictured to the right of Maxxy), summed it up simply and beautifully: “He’s one of the gang.”



In that moment, it was clear just how much Maxxy had become part of the group dynamic. After multiple sessions of playful interactions, gentle grooming, quiet companionship and thoughtful care, participants had built a genuine connection with him. They weren't just spending time with a shelter cat; they were celebrating him and supporting him on his journey to adoption.

Moments like this highlight the deeper impact experienced for both people and paws.

For Maxxy, it meant feeling engaged, stimulated and cared for while in the shelter.

For participants, they build skills, confidence, connection and purpose, knowing they are playing a role in an animal's next chapter.

*Words: Emma Singleton,
Happy Paws Happy Hearts*

Calm, Choice and Confidence for Custard

On her very first session at HPHH, participant Alice met Custard, a young kitten who kept her distance from others in the room.

While Program Trainer Juliana guided participants through understanding feline body language, Alice quietly put this learning into action. Sitting calmly, speaking softly and without expectation, she offered Custard gentle reassurance, never rushing, never forcing interaction.

At HPHH, choice and agency are a cornerstone for both people and paws. Through patience, participants begin to see the magic that can unfold when an animal is given the space to choose how they engage, and how much deeper and meaningful that connection can be as a result.

Curious but cautious, Custard watched as Alice slowly engaged her with a wand toy. For nearly half an hour, Alice allowed Custard to move at her own pace, creating a sense of safety through calm, consistent presence.



Alice and Custard

Then, a shift.

Custard relaxed and bounded with her kitten energy into playful engagement. In an incredible moment of fate, this shift and renewed energy unfolded just moments before a potential adopter arrived.

Instead of seeing a timid kitten, these adopters met a confident, curious kitten.

A powerful reminder that when choice is honoured, confidence can follow, for people and paws.

*Words: Emma Singleton,
Happy Paws Happy Hearts*

HPHH is excited to have **session vacancies across their programs running on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays** at Ten Lives Cat Centre. For those who prefer canine companions, they also host programs connecting participants with rescue dogs in need over with our pals at Dogs' Homes of Tasmania in Hobart!

HPHH programs are fee-for-service and are welcoming participants from 12+ years who access NDIS, SLES, other support schemes, or are self-funded. **If you or someone you know are looking for a fun and inclusive program which builds life skills, confidence and independence** and you want to learn more about the programs, get in touch!

HPHH offers a free one-hour orientation session for any potential participants considering the program where you can book in to come and see behind the scenes of HPHH, meet the Program Trainers and get a glimpse into the magic connections formed and skills built each week.

If you are interested, head to their website at hphhfoundation.org/shelter-program to submit your interest, or contact them on 1300 077 984 or via email at hello@hphhfoundation.org



The new airlock

Sharing exciting Meow-ments at Happy Paws Happy Hearts

Recently, the Hobart program has taken an exciting step forward, opening even more opportunities for connection and growth!

With the installation of a brand-new “air lock” connected to the Happy Paws Happy Hearts room on-site at the Cat Centre, participants can now safely welcome cats into the dedicated session room during programs.

This important addition allows animal interactions to extend beyond the adoption areas and cat pens, creating even more opportunities for hands-on learning, deeper engagement and meaningful connection within a structured environment, all while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the cats.

Even more excitingly, this upgrade has enabled HPHH to expand its program delivery, now offering afternoon sessions and increasing accessibility for more participants in the Hobart community to join the programs and magic of Happy Paws Happy Hearts!



Above: Gai with the ever popular orbs and speed circuit interactive toys . Right: The Ten Lives Shop stocks scratching posts for all

Ten Lives has the Cutest Product Testers!



You and your cat share many of the same creature comforts. Melting into your couch in front of the TV with your favourite snack takes away the stress of the day. In the same way, giving your cat a comfortable bed to sleep in, toys to play with and treats to enjoy also puts them at ease!

It can be tempting to buy all these supplies before adopting a cat. But when adopting from Ten Lives, there is no need to pre buy cat supplies. We encourage you to buy from us directly instead, because everyone benefits! During the adoption process, new owners can buy everything they need from our shop.

A cat's wellbeing is central to our work at Ten Lives, so the products we stock are chosen to ensure the

best for your cat. We sell essentials like Hill's Science Diet food, litter and litter trays. We stock a range of cat toys, both traditional and interactive, and other accessories like collars and leads, enclosures, beds, bowls and carriers.

We also have adoption pack bundles available for purchase at time of adoption, which is the ultimate starter pack for your new kitty which also saves you money!

Not to mention all the fun giftware we sell we sell for the cat lovers, too!

Kitties like the 2-month-old Gai do great work testing products to make sure they're the very best.

When you adopt a cat or kitten like Gai, you can save money on products by purchasing an adoption package alongside her.

If all of that isn't reason enough, funds raised from our shop go straight back to the animal welfare we do at Ten Lives, helping another cat on their adoption journey!

Funds raised from our shop help us feed, medicate and care for our cats to prepare them for their forever homes.

Buying from us also benefits your new feline family member by giving them the same comfort they're already used to. This helps make the transition to their new home smoother and less stressful. When adopting, you take the bedding and blankets your cat has grown used to. Maintaining familiarity will help a cat feel calmer in new surroundings.

Food, litter and litter trays are items we recommend people buy from our shop, as sudden changes can



negatively affect a cat. Cats are creatures of habit and stubborn ones at that!

We want your cat to be healthy and happy, so we recommend continuing with the food, litter and trays the cats and kittens are familiar with. Purchasing them from our shop helps both you and your cat settle into your new life together!

When adopting one of our cats or kittens, remember that you can buy your supplies from the Ten Lives shop. It makes life easier for you and your new kitty.

We sell accessories that make a difference. You can feel good knowing that the money you spend goes back into caring for cats.

*Words: Phoebe Ody,
Ten Lives Creative Volunteer*

Ten Lives Adoption Packs



Set your new kitty up right from the start!

Our new Adoption Packs take the guesswork out of getting started, with three options to suit every home: Essentials, Comfort and Deluxe.

The Essentials pack includes all the basics to get you going: food, litter, litter tray, carrier, treatments, a scratcher and toys.

Step up to Comfort or Deluxe for even more, with extra products to keep your new cat happy and settled.

Better value, less hassle. Save up to \$60* compared to buying items separately!

Support your local animal charity. All funds raised from our Shop stay right here at Ten Lives, so your purchase helps a kitty in need!

*Savings on Deluxe Adoption Pack.



Watch Him Sprout

If you had the pleasure of meeting Sprout during his time in the adoption rooms in early 2026, you would have seen an active, playful and affectionate young cat with bright, curious eyes. It would have been hard to imagine the complex journey he had taken to get there.



Update pic: Sprout (now Sully) has settled in wonderfully!!!

Sprout entered our care on 3 December 2025 when he was nine months old, where he quickly showed his friendly and energetic personality to the team.

He was diagnosed with gingivitis, an inflammation of the gums, along with gingival hyperplasia, an overgrowth of gum tissue.

Both conditions can be painful and, if left untreated, could lead to ongoing health issues.

On 10 December, Sprout underwent a dental procedure, which included the extraction of several teeth.

Following surgery, he was placed into foster care so he could recover in a calm and supportive environment.

But it was not over for Sprout.

Follow-up assessments found ongoing gingival irritation and a risk of major recurrence. After careful examination, the vet team decided a full mouth extraction was needed to ensure his long-term comfort and health.

On 20 January, Sprout underwent this major dental surgery. The procedure was complex but successful, and after an overnight stay at Ten Lives, he returned to foster care to continue his recovery.

In foster care, Sprout continued to show his affectionate and engaging purrsonality, enjoying pats, playtime and climbing.

Despite no longer having any teeth, he adapted remarkably well and continued to eat dry food without difficulty.

When Sprout finished recovery, he went up for adoption on 19 February, where he became a favourite amongst the team thanks to his quirky little habits, and ability to be able to suck everyone in to playtime!

He was a very special boy. After several weeks, and even a brief role as the Marketing Office Cat, Sprout found his new home on 14 March.

Sprout's journey reflects the care, planning and expertise that goes into every cat at Ten Lives.

Thanks to the skill of our team, Sprout is now where he belongs, snoozing in warm beds and bringing joy to his family, who renamed him Sully.

It is also thanks to your generous support that Sprout's journey was a success.

To ensure we continue to be ready to support cats like Sprout, please consider making a donation at tenlives.com.au/donate



Kaz meeting Kevin

Kaz' Kat of the Week

If you've tuned into Triple M Hobart Breakfast on Tuesday mornings recently, you might have heard a new segment called Kaz's Kat of the Week.

Karen McMullen from Triple M is a big cat lover, and every week she visits the Centre to meet all the cats available for adoption, choosing one each week for her segment. She picks the cats she connects with, often those who've been waiting a little while and could use some extra help getting the word out.

Kaz's first cat of the week was Kevin, a 10-year-old tabby and white boy with a gentle, friendly nature that made him an easy companion.

As soon as Kaz entered Kevin's kennel, he went straight up to her for plenty of snuggles, even settling into her lap. He was clearly smitten.

It wasn't long after the segment aired that Kevin found his forever home!

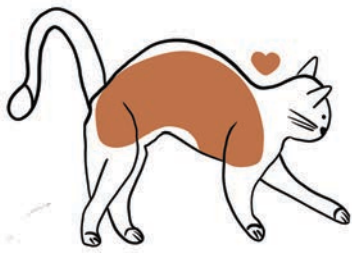
It just goes to show how much collaboration and simply getting the word out can help cats like Kevin.

To find out who Kaz's next Kat of the Week will be, tune in to Triple M Hobart Breakfast on Tuesdays!

BIKKIE GAMES TO PLAY WITH YOUR FAVOURITE FELINE



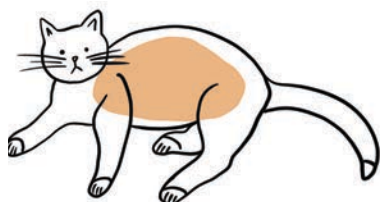
Toby testing out a fun puzzle game



Playing games with your cat is a fun way to keep them busy and curious. When a cat has that kind of playful stimulation, they're less likely to feel bored and more likely to stay happy and healthy. Best of all, playing together is a way to bond with your furry friend!

Here are two fun and easy DIY games to play with a kitty. The best part is, you only need some favourite kibble or treats and an empty cardboard box.

It's a purr-fect way to keep a cat entertained, engaged and on the prowl for fun, all while creating a meow-gical playtime adventure!

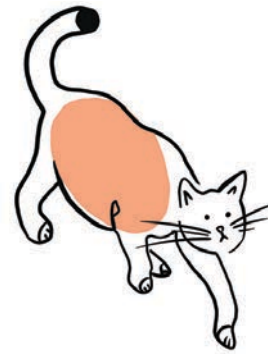


HIDE AND SEEK

Being curious little creatures, most cats simply can't resist the temptation of a game of hide and seek. While it might be a bit of a cat-astrophe to expect a kitty to hide while you count to ten, it can work the other way around!

For kitties new to the game, start at mealtime. Sneakily leave bikkies behind a couch, desk, bed or door. When they track down bikkies like the clever little hunter they are, they get rewarded with a tasty treat. Keep switching them to a more challenging hiding spots!

This game is a fur-tastic way that can make mealtimes more exciting while tapping into a cat's natural instincts. It lets them stalk, prowl and pounce; making playtime fun!



INTERACTIVE PUZZLES

Nothing chases away boredom faster than giving a kitty a paws-itively exciting challenge like hunting for hidden treats! This game taps into their natural curiosity and inner hunter, and those tasty little surprises are appetising motivation.

To create this meow-velous puzzle, grab an old box and cut a few holes of different sizes. Pop in some treats and a couple of their favourite toys, then tape the lid shut. Once it's ready, introduce your curious cat to their new brain-teasing toy.

They'll have a great time sniffing, pawing and trying to sneak their way to the goodies inside. It's sure to keep them entertained and feline fine!

Words: Vanessa Triffitt,
Ten Lives Creative Volunteer



YOUNG FUNDRAISERS HELP KITTIES IN NEED

In early 2026, the Ten Lives Cat Centre received a delightful surprise that brightened everyone's day.

A group of young children visited the centre to donate an impressive \$471.5! This is funds they had raised themselves by making and selling bracelets.

Along with the donation, the children gave us a handmade sign they had used during their fundraiser. It read, 'Help donate to Ten Lives', and was decorated with colourful drawings of cats, balloons and stars. Adorable!

The funds they raised have gone towards helping us provide shelter, food and care for a very lucky kitty, making a real difference in a small but meaningful way.

Their effort is a wonderful reminder that you're never too young to make a difference.



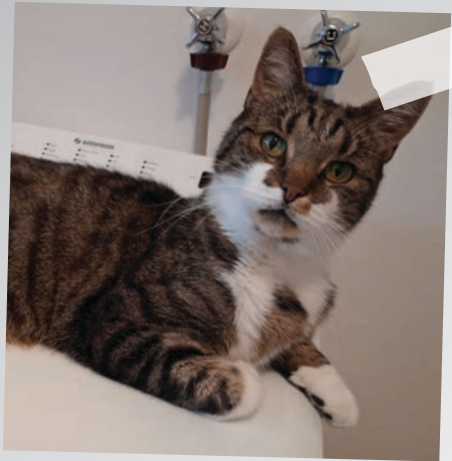
THE KIDS FUNDRAISING SIGN



"Indiana Pip"

#catsofnewtown

Every cat has a story.



KEVIN

"We adopted Kevin, he is such a beautiful boy and gives the best cuddles! He's settled in so well and is a chilled out boy. So glad he is in our lives, we love him to bits."

— Debbie, Kevin's hoomin,
adopted April '26

"MAXXY LOVES HIS NEW HOME!"
— AARON, MAXXY'S HOOMIN,
ADOPTED APRIL '26



MAXXY



KINGSTON

"We saw Kingston (now Dmitri) online and when we met him in person a few days later, we immediately fell in love. He has so much character including his torn ear and tiny little squeaky meow. We heard he had been waiting to be adopted for some time and we couldn't believe it - he's such a cutie! Dmitri made himself at home within about 10 minutes!"
— Marisa, Kingston's hoomin,
adopted January '26



BUGGY & BOBA

"We came to find out about fostering but fell in love with Buggy and Boba! We've renamed them Emma and Alexis, and they're right at home. They've bonded to each other and don't like being apart for long, giving each other baths and snuggling. They're loving their new house and outdoor enclosure, lots of toys and places to explore. It's hard to imagine life without them and we're so happy we found them both."

- Kate, Buggy and Boba's hoomin, adopted February '26



SATURN

"We adopted Saturn (re-named Jack) and he is already settled in and so loved. We are so happy and feel very lucky to have him."

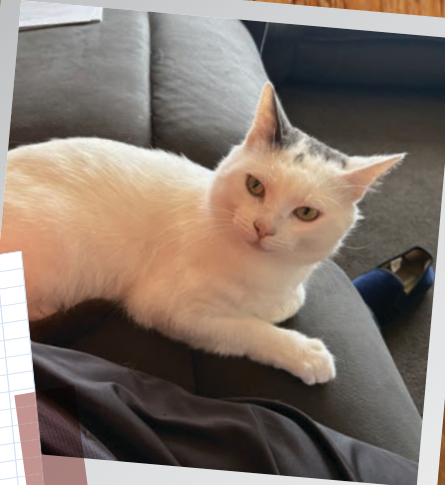
- Elle, Saturn's hoomin, adopted February '26



DAHLIA

"Dahlia, now named Leiya, is having the time of her life here with lots of cuddles and getting into mischief."

- Kyra, Dahlia's hoomin, adopted April '26



LEO

"Leo has settled in perfectly. Although I'm not sure about the slapping he gives to wake me up at 6am haha!"

- Natasha, Leo's hoomin, adopted January '26

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.



OP SHOP

Ten Lives Op Shops are essential for helping to raise the funds needed to achieve the important work we do with cats, the community and the environment.

Open 7 days from 10am! You can find us at:



Margate

1717 Channel Highway
03 6144 6539



North Hobart

222 Argyle Street
03 6144 6533



New Norfolk

37 High Street
03 6100 7999



Moonah

Cnr Main Rd & Hopkins St
03 6278 3111



Rosny Park

2 Bayfield Street
03 6145 5979

Join the team!

Help us keep the shelves stocked with fabulous items and caring for the resident kitty for adoption by volunteering a morning or afternoon per week!

Scan the QR code, visit tenlives.com.au/volunteer or ask us in store for more info!



Be part of it!