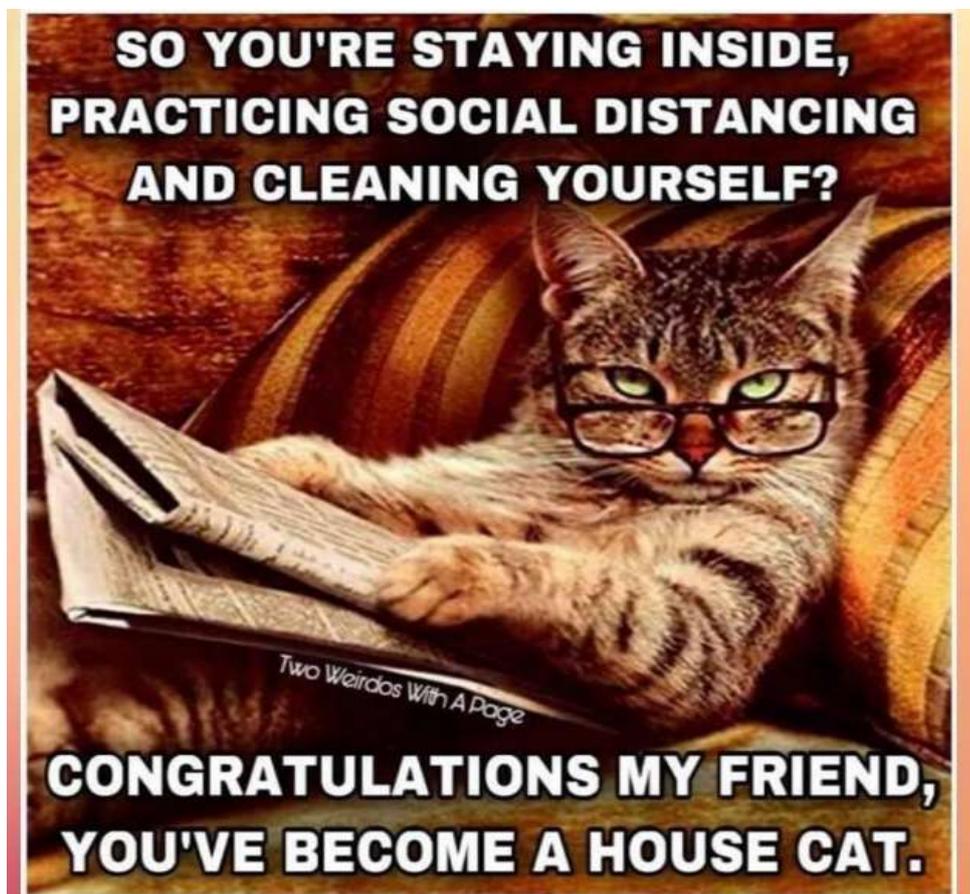


“MONTHLY MEOW”

The Official Monthly Mewsletter of the NSW Cat Fanciers Association



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to our first issue of the Monthly Meow.

This year life, for all of us, is completely different to what it was pre COVID-19. We have never had an experience remotely like this in our lifetimes, and we are all dealing with the situation differently. For many of us, one of our ways of getting together and sharing information, has been attending cat shows, and catching up in that way. In the absence of shows, we have had to learn to communicate with each other in new formats and support each other in different ways.

In addition to the quarterly journal “Catching Up”, we will produce a monthly newsletter to keep you informed about what has been happening in the NSW CFA and about upcoming events.

Monthly Meow is also a vehicle which will allow us to respond to your feedback – like the members’ surveys that some of our members completed – and to address your concerns. The newsletter will also keep you updated about matters with which your committee is actively involved, such as Office of Local Government legislation,

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (POCTA) legislation, and Animal Care Australia (ACA), and include articles that we hope are of interest to you: this month an article about [Pancreatitis in Cats](#).

We hope you will enjoy this very first issue and until the next issue, stay well and safe and support each other.

Meows

YOUR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As you will be aware, there have been a couple of changes to the Management Committee since June. The President Joanne Greentree made the difficult decision to resign at the beginning of June and in addition to the *"thank you"* to Joanne later in the newsletter, we would also like to express our thanks on behalf of the members for all the hard work and commitment she demonstrated in her years as President. We welcome Sue Thomas as the new President and Stephanie Richards as the new Vice President. We also welcome our new member – Julie Fitzhenry – who has taken up the casual vacancy created by Joanne's resignation – we hope she finds her new role fulfilling.

In addition Sandra Dukes who has produced the Journal for some years now, has now stepped down from this task. We take this opportunity to thank her for her time and efforts in preparing the journal and including her wonderful photos taken at the shows.

The Management Committee meets monthly (except for January) and all members – many of whom work full time – assist with the general work involved in running our Association. Some of the Management Committee members also have specific additional areas of involvement and interest:

TRACEY CAMP – OLG Breeder Focus & *"watching the cash"* 😊

MICHELLE GRAYSON – updates to the website and Facebook page and Secretary of Animal Care Australia (ACA).

MAUREEN NORBERRY – Constitution & Procedures review with Sue Thomas, CCCA breed committee member & member of the OLG Pet Reference Group

SUE THOMAS – Constitution & Procedures review with Maureen Norberry, breeder packs and training provisions

STEPHANIE RICHARDS – contributor to planning for COVID-safe shows



IN THE PIPELINE – Management Committee Projects

- **Survey Feedback** – the committee is working its way through the feedback received from members to find solutions to the concerns raised. The following diagram shows the progress to date.

MEMBER SURVEY RESPONSES			
STRATEGIES FOR NEW MEMBERS	RECOGNISE CATS NSW IN FULL	RESCIND THE BYLAWS AND PUT IN PLACE ONES FOR ANCATS	
attendance	Reports	notices of motion	consult breeders before changing standards
Breeder education	Distribution of show calendar dates/ Royal Show stigma -mend bridges with RASF	Improve our interstate registration processes	remove microchip fee
better Pedigree papers	receive emails on cat shows	see pictures of MC representatives	Admin: on web and now on ballotpapers
pedigrees in plastic wallets	Admin: Propose we use the cheapest plastic covers	Admin: CFA could email all its members when a shows schedule goes up and post on FB	Admin: Implement Newsletter
Application of the code of conduct for exhibitors	TRANSPARENCY OF MC COMMITTEE	LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH CLUBS	WARFARE BETWEEN CAT AFFILIATES
ANCATS PEOPLE WORKING AT CFA SHOWS	NO LEAVE EARLY FROM SHOW UNLESS WRITTEN 7 DAY BEFORE SHOW - Devise TEMPLATE	COMPLIANCE OF SHOW WORKERS CONTRACTS - TEMPLATES	COMPANION ANIMALS ACT - NEG INPUT BY NSW CFA
GO ONLINE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS	SURVEY MONKEY FOR COMMITTEE ELECTION	AUTOMATE CFA	NO POSTAL ASPECTS
TRAINING FOR RUNNING SHOWS	SYSTEM TO COMPILE RESULTS	COMMITTEES & SCOPES	WANTS TO SEE CFA IMPROVEMENTS OVER 5 YEARS
5 & 10 YEAR PLANS OF CFA	TIGHTEN RULES FOR CAT CLUBS TO FORM	CENTRALISATION OF PRODUCT SPONSORS	
Actioned	Work in progress	hard to achieve - explanations	

- **Email Capability** – we are in the process of setting up a member email facility so that our members can be updated quickly and cost effectively about issues that affect them. Any members who wish to be included and who haven't already provided email details should notify the office.
- **Breeder Membership** – the MC is currently reviewing the requirements for becoming a breeder member of NSW CFA – in response to regulatory changes and to promote responsible breeding practices and assist our breeder members, particularly new breeders who wish to join and with whom we can ensure best practice. Implementation.

THANK YOU

Joanne Greentree

As you would all be aware, Joanne Greentree, who held the position of President of NSW CFA for over 6 years and who has been a member of the Management Committee for about 10 years, made the difficult decision to resign on 1 June 2020.

The position of President involves a significant degree of time, knowledge and commitment and Joanne was particularly active in the role. Joanne was also readily available to give advice and support to members and was an active contributor in the staging of the State shows and the Western District Cat Society show, among others. . Joanne also regularly attended shows with her Exotics, which have done very well on the show bench – including at least one CCCA National Supreme win.

On behalf of our Association and the Management Committee, we sincerely thank Joanne for her lengthy and unstinting service to our Association and wish her the best in her well deserved retirement from the MC, although we are sure she will continue to be a significant supporter of the Association in other ways.

IMPORTANT UPDATES

- **COVID rules for future shows**

NSW CFA has implemented a COVID 19 pack to assist the affiliates in planning a safe show under COVID19 obligations. Please see the link on the CFA Website:

<http://www.nswcfa.asn.au/notices/notices/2020%20Schedules/COVID%20Assessment%20Form.pdf>

- **Special General Meeting**

The Management Committee has called an SGM – on **Thursday 27 August 2020** – seeking to make changes to our BY-LAW, which currently restricts interaction and recognition between CATS NSW and NSW CFA. Copies of the proposed changes, the current By Law, information about the SGM and proxy notices, were sent to members about two weeks ago. If you have any queries about the SGM or paperwork forwarded to you, please contact our Office Administrator.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Membership renewals** – members are reminded that annual membership subscriptions are due by **31 August 2020**.
- **Management Committee Elections** – nominations for election to the Management Committee close on **31 August 2020**. Any members interested in seeking selection should contact the office for information about the procedure and forms.
- **Annual General Meeting** – the Association's AGM will be held on **Tuesday 27 October** in the Rotunda at the Dog Complex, commencing at **7:00pm**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Covid-Safe shows** – Armidale & New England club will be announcing their show date soon.
- **Feline Health seminar** – Sydney Fancy Felines are still planning to hold this event – subject to COVID restrictions. A final decision will be made and announced in September.
- **Seminars on Basic cat colour genetics** – Kerry Fowler has kindly accepted our invitation to conduct a series of Zoom presentations on this topic. This will be open to all members and details will be advised as soon as they are available.

INVOLVEMENT IN YOUR ASSOCIATION

• Sub Committees

As you may know, the Association has several subcommittees. Traditionally, the members have mainly been sourced from the MC. We believe that these subcommittees should be largely constituted by our members – to give members the opportunity to have a better voice in our Association and take advantage of the significant skills and experience that many of our members have. Accordingly, we are inviting expressions of interest for membership of the following subcommittees:

- Judges/Breeds committee
- Education/Compliance committee
- Show and Stewards sub committees.

Please note that membership involves attendance at meetings at least quarterly and active participation. The subcommittees are re-constituted annually commencing in November. If you think you may be interested, please contact our Office Administrator.

• Breeder/Prefix Enquiries

We are asking for any breeder members who are interested in taking enquiries from people (whether current non-breeder members or potential members) about this. If you are interested and feel that you have the relevant knowledge and experience, please contact our Office Administrator for information.

COMPETITIONS

We will be running regular competitions in the newsletter. This month the competition is for **best groomed cat or kitten** and the winner will receive the **Chris Christensen grooming bag** pictured below and donated by a Management Committee member.



To enter: submit a photo of your beautifully groomed cat/kitten and one of our judges will select the winner – to be announced in the September issue of the Monthly Meow.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Cats may have been pets along the Silk Road over 1,000 years ago

By Megan Marples, CNN

Updated 1111 GMT (1911 HKT) July 16, 2020



Cats like we know them today accompanied pastoralists in Kazakhstan more than 1,000 years ago.

(CNN) — Cats may have been pets for Kazakh pastoralists along the Silk Road over 1,000 years ago, a new study said.

Tests on a cat skeleton found along the Silk Road in southern Kazakhstan revealed that cats may have been pets for nomadic herders in the area, according to a study published last week in the *Scientific Reports* journal.

It's rare to find an almost complete cat skeleton, which allowed researchers to analyze the

News & buzz



Analysis: The Re Senate nightma true



"Bottom line is, I pleased with ho going..."



If you wish to read this article please click on the link:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/07/16/world/silk-road-cats-pets-scni/index.html>

The hunt for big cats in Australia

By Jewel Topsfield

July 5, 2020 – 12:36am



f t e | A A A

65 View all comments

In 1973, Simon Townsend saw something that changed his life.

He was a pimply boy from the suburbs, walking along the Warburton pipeline east of Melbourne when he glimpsed an animal the size of a German shepherd dog that he believes was a black panther.

"It was glistening in the winter sunshine, completely black, I could see the muscles moving under the skin. I still dream about the malevolent stare it gave me, that particular look was very personal."

If you wish to read this article please click on the link:

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/the-hunt-for-big-cats-in-australia-20200703-p558qg.html>

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Office of Local Government (OLG) Responsible Pet Ownership Reference Group:

NSW CFA is fortunate to have been invited to be a member of this OLG Reference Group, thus providing us with the opportunity to have input into proposed regulations that will significantly affect our hobby and our breeders in particular. We are the only cat registering body represented on this Reference Group and this is due to our lengthy and consistent history of involvement in regulatory issues by way of submissions and participation in public hearings. The current reference group was convened for the period 2019 – 2021. The meetings are “in confidence” meetings but we advise our members of developments when we are able to – for instance the introduction of Annual Permits commencing 1 July 2020, which was widely advertised to our members and which we encourage our members to promote.

The Important points to note about the Annual Permit provisions are:

1. From 1 July 2020, owners of cats not desexed by the age of 4 months will be required to pay an \$80 annual permit fee **in addition** to their one-off lifetime registration fee, with some exceptions.
2. Some important exceptions to this annual fee are:
 - Cats kept for breeding purposes by members of recognized breeder organisations – NSW CFA is such an organization;
 - Cats that can't be desexed either temporarily or permanently – this requires a letter from your vet, prior to the cat reaching four months of age; and
3. Cats that are desexed after 4 months of age when they are adopted from a rehoming organization.

If you wish to view the contents of the Annual Permit Toolkit produced by the OLG please click on the link below:

Link to the Toolkit: [ishttp://info.olg.nsw.gov.au/link/id/](http://info.olg.nsw.gov.au/link/id/)

Link to the OLG Pet Reference Group: <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/dogs-cats/responsible-pet-ownership-reference-group/>)

Changes in the pet registry

The OLG has prepared the necessary enhancements to the Companion Animals Register (CAR) and NSW Pet Registry (Registry) that will enable the functionality of annual permits and allow **pet owners** to pay for their permit through the Registry or their local council.

However, some of our members have noted that the Pet Registry is not currently set up for breeders to register cats and kittens and the OLG is asking for feedback from stakeholders as to any issues or suggestions they have in relation to the Pet Registry.

Note: Members are asked to direct any issues/suggestions to our Office Administrator to be passed on to the OLG.

Animal Care Australia (ACA)

ACA is an animal welfare organisation striving to improve animal welfare standards.

Born in the midst of the unsuccessful consultation attempts by Dept of Primary Industries (DPI) to amend the *Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals Act* (POCTA), members from different organisations came together to discuss their concerns over the lack of consultation from Government as well as the ever increasing animal rights movement influence on state governments.

Within weeks, representatives across a range of species including cats, dogs, birds, reptiles, rodents, native animals and horses came together and ACA was formed. ACA is a recognised key stakeholder for the current animal welfare acts in NSW, VIC and WA.

Some of the work ACA has been involved in is:

- Inquiry into Animal Cruelty Laws in NSW & appeared to give testimony at the Select Committee Hearings
- NSW Animal Welfare Reforms (POCTA)
- Review into Animal Abuse and Domestic and Family Violence
- Inquiry into Exhibition of Exotic Animals (Circus & Marine Parks) & appeared to give testimony at the Select Committee Hearings
- Regular meetings with various state governments
- Regular meetings with NSW RSPCA & NSW AWL

NSWCFA is a member of ACA and we encourage you to follow their Face book page Animal Care Australia Inc. We would encourage our Affiliate clubs to join as members as well as individuals joining as supporters.



"Animal welfare by the experts—
those who keep, care for and breed animals"
www.animalcareaustralia.org.au

Frequently asked questions



How does ACA improve animal welfare?

ACA meets with government and other authorities to communicate the needs of our animals, and provides advice on how to improve current standards and proposals. We support education on better animal care, over regulatory restrictions and penalties.

www.animalcareaustralia.com/join

