



Purrings

May 2020 Edition

Hello to all our members in this very strange time. Normally we would be looking forward to the show season and talking about plans for our own show in June.

It is deeply disappointing that we have had to cancel our show for this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It had promised to be yet another successful event in the lovely (albeit chilly) Camden show hall.

Still, we hope to be back bigger and better next year. In the meantime, a big thank you to our sponsors who had signed up for 2020. I hope to see you all in 2021 – OzPet, Wombiroo, Orivet, Vebo Pet, Moar Mice, Pooches n Cream.

Because of COVID-19, the meeting which was scheduled for May has also been cancelled. At this rate, it looks like our next meeting will be the AGM in October, assuming we are allowed to meet by then. I remain optimistic that there may be a couple of cat shows between now and then but I am certainly not sure about it.

Speaking of COVID-19, there has been some confusion about whether humans can catch a coronavirus from cats. This is partly because of the coronavirus found in domestic cats (FCoV). An article about this is included in this edition of Purrings.

It is important to stress to the wider public that cats cannot infect humans with COVID-19, as the last thing we want to see is a lot of cats dumped or surrendered to the RSPCA because of a fear of contracting the virus.

On a lighter note, I hope everyone had a successful kitten breeding season. I am still seeing a lot of requests for kittens so please let me know if you have any needing homes. Admittedly, just at present all enquiries will have to be linked to their state (or preferably city) of origin due to travel restrictions. By next kitten season, hopefully these will be relaxed and a thing of the distant past.

Meanwhile, our cat of the year results for 2019 are now available. Sadly, we won't be able to promote these as usual at our show but congratulations to all who feature in them. It is a testimony to those people's willingness to show their cats at as many shows as possible, thus promoting the breed around the state.

I wish all members and their families well throughout this pandemic. I very much hope to see you all on the other side of it.

Keep safe

Janet Doust - President

2019 - 2020 Committee

President: Janet Doust

Vice President: Pam Coyte

Secretary: Michelle Grayson

Treasurer: Deb Young

Committee: Carol Richings, Anne Marie McDonnell and Margaret Keith

Club Patrons: Judy Lewis and Margaret Chaney

Publicity Officer/Webmaster: Michelle Grayson

2020 Show Manager: Stephanie Richards

2020 Show Secretary: Michelle Grayson

2019 Club Cat of the Year

The award cards are in and the results tallied. Congratulations to our 2019 club award winners

MALE KITTEN

Winner: MAISONDECHAT CHOIR BOY
Owner: M Grayson – Breeder: D McLaughlin

FEMALE KITTEN

Winner: GLAMARA ROYAL AFFAIR
Owner/Breeder: J Doust
Runner-Up: GLAMARA BLUE MOON
Owner/Breeder: J Doust

DESEXED KITTEN

Winner: BINDURA DOUBLE DELITE
Owner /Breeder: C & P Cootes

MALE CAT No Award

FEMALE CAT

Winner: CH GLAMARA ROYAL AFFAIR
Owner/Breeder: J Doust
Runner-up: CH BINDURA TRUFFEL ILLUSION
Owner: P Coyte – Breeder: C & P Cootes

NEUTER CAT

Winner: DB GD CH SUBRIA BANKSIA MAN
Owner: B Pegg – Breeder: B & C Richings
Runner-up: GD CH CONDE EUREKA GOLD
Owner/Breeder: M Keith

SPAY CAT

Winner: CCCA CH + GD DB GD CH MINOSA MILLY ROSE
Owner/Breeder : P Coyte
Runner-up: GD CH FIONELLA WHAT A SCANDAL
Owner: J Doust – Breeder: F Refalo



Vale Conde Bajazzo

NAT SH CCCA DIAMOND TR GD CH & TR GD CH & DIA DB GD CH & ACT DIA GD CH CONDE BAJAZZO

Born 12 September 2005

Sire: Ch & Act Ch Juliska Artic Leopold (Q) and DAm: Amalaise Fair Rose (WA)

Two weeks before Christmas 2019 I had to make a serious decision to take Jazzie to the vet for the last time. It surely was a heart wrenching decision but one I had to make. My youngest son David came with me and we held his paw as he went to sleep.

He was a beautiful example of the Birman breed – well known amongst the group 1 judges and exhibitors. A real gentleman on the bench.

His first show was the Sydney Royal where he was judged in one ring as BEST KITTEN out of 82! I was rather chuffed and thought then I should keep him as a neuter only. I already had two boys and didn't need another one entire.

Another pleasing result was at the 2010 National in Melbourne when German judge Annliese Hackman, who held position of President of Deutsche Edelkatze and who breed Persians, Oriental Shorthair and German Rex, picked him as her best desexed cat and presented me with a special rosette. That was a great honour!

Over the next eleven years I, with the help of my dear husband Bill, went to many shows – city, country and interstate. Jazzie hardly missed being in the top 5 at shows. He was also many times in the end of year CFA NSW Top 5.

He had a girlfriend in Conde Drama Girl, they called to each other very sweetly and welcomed each other when we arrived home from a day out at a show.

As you can see from his titles, no card writers were pleased to be writing out his white cards!

His parents had many beautiful kittens as good as if not better than him but eventually the mould was broken when Rosie was rehomed.

I WAS VERY SAD TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY BEAUTIFUL BOY

R I P JAZZIE

Marg Keith



NSW Govt Introduction of Annual Permits for Non-Desexed Cats

NSW Government changes will come into effect on **1 July 2020** relating the Non- Desexed Cats.

Breeders who are registered with a Recognised Association (NSWCFA, CATS NSW or ANCATS) are exempt from the annual permit for any cats involved in their Breeding Program.

<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/councils/responsible-pet-ownership/nsw-pet-registry/annual-permits/>

Annual permits for non-desexed cats, and restricted and dangerous dogs start on 1 July 2020



What are the new annual permits about?

From 1 July 2020 owners of cats not desexed by four months of age will be required to pay an \$80 annual permit in addition to their one-off lifetime pet registration fee.

Owners of dogs of a restricted breed or declared to be dangerous will also be required to pay a \$195 annual permit in addition to their one-off lifetime pet registration fee.

Why are annual permits being introduced?

Annual permits for non-desexed cats:

- ✓ create a stronger incentive to desex cats and improve their health and wellbeing
- ✓ lower demand on pounds and shelters
- ✓ reduce euthanasia rates

- ✓ help address concerns about feral, stray and roaming cats
- ✓ help protect our wildlife

The Government has also made a one-off \$10 reduction to the lifetime cat registration fee to encourage higher registration rates and adoption of cats from pounds and shelters.

Annual permits for dangerous and restricted dogs will:

- ✓ reduce ownership of high-risk dogs
- ✓ encourage owners to better manage the behaviour of their animal
- ✓ improve community safety
- ✓ reduce dog attacks



petregistry
.nsw.gov.au

Annual permits for non-desexed cats, and restricted and dangerous dogs start on 1 July 2020

How can I avoid the annual permit?

- ✓ desex your cat by four months of age, or request an exemption from your vet*
- ✓ register your cat before 1 July 2020
- ✓ don't own a restricted dog
- ✓ manage your dog's behaviour to ensure that it's not declared dangerous
- ✓ if you are a cat breeder, join a recognised cat breeding body

* Cats that cannot be desexed, either temporarily or permanently, are exempt from paying an annual permit. A certificate from your vet is required to qualify for this exemption.

What dog breeds are restricted?

Restricted dog breeds are the pit bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, Japanese tosa, Argentinian fighting dog, Brazilian fighting dog, and canary mastiff. A dog can also be declared to be one of, or a cross-breed of, one of these restricted breeds.

What is a dangerous dog?

Dogs of any breed can be formally declared dangerous by a council or court if the dog, without provocation, has attacked or killed a person or animal, repeatedly threatened to attack or repeatedly chased a person or animal, or is kept or used for hunting.

How will pet owners pay for the annual permits?

From 1 July 2020, pet owners will be able to pay for annual permits using the NSW Pet Registry website, or through their local council.

Anyone registering a cat on the NSW Pet Registry will be informed that they must pay for an \$80 annual permit if their animal is not desexed by four months of age.

Where will the revenue raised from the annual permits go?

Pet registration fees and annual permit fees go directly back to the local community through local councils to fund:

- ✓ animal pounds/shelters
- ✓ ranger services
- ✓ dog recreation areas
- ✓ education and awareness programs

They also fund operation of the Government's NSW Pet Registry and the Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program which teaches dog safety tips to children in our pre-schools and primary schools across the State.

What is the penalty if pet owners don't have an annual permit and get caught?

Pet owners who fail to obtain an annual permit risk an on-the-spot fine of \$700 for restricted or dangerous dogs and \$400 for non-desexed cats.

If taken to court, maximum penalties of \$6,600 for restricted or dangerous dogs and \$5,500 for non-desexed cats may apply.

Where can I get further information?

Visit the Office of Local Government website at olg.nsw.gov.au

Cats and Covid19

WHAT IS THE RISK OF CATS TRANSMITTING OR RECEIVING COVID-19?

Can cats catch coronavirus (COVID-19)?

A recent report in Belgium stated that a cat owned by a woman with coronavirus (COVID-19) developed symptoms including vomiting, diarrhoea and breathing difficulties. A type of coronavirus was detected in the cat's faeces and vomit. This might be the first possible case of human-to-cat transmission of COVID-19 and if so, is extremely rare.

Less rare is the presence of coronavirus in a cat, as almost all of the domestic population of cats world-wide carry Feline Coronavirus (FCoV).

It is important to note that transmission of COVID-19 from wild animals to human populations in China occurred because those animals were either consumed or kept in a wet market in close contact with other species which were then consumed.

There is still no evidence that cats can transmit the virus to humans and it is important that owners should not worry unnecessarily.

If it were possible to catch it from a pet, it would have become a clear factor in the spread of the pandemic but not a single case has been identified.

The president of the Australian Veterinary Association, Dr Julia Crawford, is quoted in the April 11-12 edition of the Sydney Morning Herald as saying on March 11 "...To date, there is no evidence that pets can spread the disease....".

The Australian government says no cases have been detected in domestic animals (pets and livestock) or wildlife in the country.

However, as a precaution it is advised that owners should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling their pet. Anyone infected with coronavirus (COVID-19) should be particularly mindful by minimising contact using similar physical distancing measures to those used between humans.

It is important to note that Feline Coronavirus (FCoV) is NOT associated with the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

FCoV is a common and contagious virus which is passed in the faeces of cats. It is more commonly found in multi-cat households and does not affect other animals or people.

FCoV is caught by a cat inadvertently swallowing the virus, through contact with other cats, litter trays or soil where other cats have toileted. Exposure to faeces in the litter tray is the most common means of transmission. Forty per cent or more of cats will be infected with the virus at some time in their lives and most owners will be unaware of it. Nearly every cat that encounters the virus will become infected and most will remain healthy and the majority will clear the virus themselves.

Most cats do not display any sign of being infected with FCoV, although some cats get diarrhoea for a few days. These cats tend to shed the virus in their faeces for a few months and remain healthy. In a very small percentage of cats, the virus mutates and causes a fatal disease called feline infectious

peritonitis (FIP). This is more likely to occur in multi-cat environments and can take weeks, months or occasionally years after the initial infection with FCoV to develop.

Unfortunately, a cat which clears FCoV does not then become immune. A cat can become re-infected with FCoV again at any time and can be susceptible to it mutating and causing FIP.

Again, there is no known link between FCoV and COVID-19 – and no evidence at all that cats can transmit to humans. The risk in fact is the other way, with a slight chance a cat could pick COVID-19 up from contact with an infected human.

Sources: cats.org.uk; Cornell University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine paper DL-931 11/07; Sydney Morning Herald

Should you, or anyone you know, become concerned, the best advice you can give them is to seek Medical or Veterinary advice.



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Living with pets during the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting our routines and this affects our pets, in some good and not so good ways. To minimise their being upset by the disruptions, the Australian Veterinary Behaviour Interest Group suggest the following:

- Pets daily lives should be kept as routine as possible.
- Continue their regular walking routine where safe to do so while ensuring social distancing is maintained.
- Dogs can still gain the benefit of physical exercise and mental stimulation without leaving the house or yard through games such as fetch, chasing a toy or hide and seek.
- Pets on behaviour medications, as with any ongoing medication, should continue to be given to them as normal and not be stopped during this time.
- Everyone needs a break from the people they live with at times and this includes pets. If you are home with your pets and children, remember to give your pets a break from the kids if the pet wants it. This may just be a chance to lie in another room or have a rest outside. Make it a family rule that if the pets are on their bed (or other designated place) they are having a rest and must be left alone.
- If you find working at home difficult with your pet, consider restricting them from the room where you are working. A puzzle toy or device that rewards them with treats or a chewing item such as a bone may help settle them.
- While you are working at home, remember to take breaks – your pets are perfect at helping with that!



Cats and Arthritis

Studies show that arthritis in cats is far more common than owners expect, with between 60% and more than 90% of cats showing radiographic evidence of arthritis in the limb joints. Many of us don't recognise the symptoms in our feline companions as we just simply think they slow down and get tired as they get older.

Certainly, arthritis exists more commonly in older animals, as a part of normal 'wear and tear' on the joints, but it can occur at any age. Other factors involved include breed, weight, nutrition, amount and intensity of exercise, injury (e.g. slipped disc, joint dislocation, fracture), congenital malformation (e.g. hip dysplasia), chronic inflammatory diseases or other inflammatory arthropathies (immune mediated joint disease).

One of the very early signs is that the cat stops jumping up on benches, and sometimes not even onto beds anymore, and just 'slows down'. Typically, as the disease progresses, the cat stops grooming along its back and base of the tail because it is uncomfortable to reach there. Eventually the cat becomes very grumpy and immobile. Other signs include:

- An inability to jump up and play as they used to
- Change of resting locations
- Difficulty going up or down stairs
- Difficulty using the litter tray
- Difficulty going in or out of the cat flap
- Becoming stiff after resting
- Difficulty grooming, poor coat condition
- Not accessing the food bowl as often, weight loss
- Less exercise, not using scratching post, overgrown nails
- Less interaction with other pets or owners
- Aggressive behaviour when being approached, touched or moved (due to pain)

A diagnosis of arthritis can be based on the presence of these signs, especially in cats over 7 years of age, along with a physical examination and x-rays if necessary. Blood and urine tests are usually performed in older cats to look for other medical conditions or prior to starting medication.

Management of arthritis in cats

Medications can be very effective at controlling the pain and inflammation associated with arthritis, especially the newer and safer medications registered for cats. Never give human painkillers, such as aspirin, nurofen and paracetamol as these kill cats very efficiently, so it is important to use only drugs designed for the cat's very special type of metabolism.

Injections of pentosan polysulphate (cartrophen) may also be given under the skin, which improve the joint environment by restoring joint cartilage.

Dietary supplements such as glucosamine, chondroitin, green lipped muscle and shark cartilage may also be useful. The purpose of these nutraceuticals is to improve the health of the fluid lubricating the joint.

Managing your cat's environment is also important, including:

- soft, comfortable beds placed in easily accessible, quiet locations
- small steps or a ramp to allow cats to access higher sites (e.g. couch, windowsill, cat flap)
- easily accessible litter tray with low sides
- easily accessible food and water
- regular grooming sessions once pain medication allows
- provide a suitable 'senior' or weight loss diet as recommended by your vet

Surgery has a role to play in removing cartilage flaps, bone chips, and remodelling the joints where necessary to allow improved function.

So, if your cat is slowing down or thinking twice about going outside this winter, don't delay – they could be jumping around like a kitten again in no time!

Source: Dr Julia Adams BVSc & Macathur Veterinary Group



2021 Birman Show

It was very disappointing to have to cancel our 2020 show but the current situation meant that we could not guarantee that sufficient restrictions would have been lifted to ensure the show could run successfully.

We are pleased to confirm that Judy Lewis will be attending in 2021 to Judge, and work is already underway for 2021.

It sure is strange to have all these spare weekends on my hands with nowhere to go !!!

Michelle (Show Secretary)

2019 - 2020 Member Directory

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Deb Young		0417 412 288	dayoung@iinet.net.au
Derina McLaughlin			enterpri@bigpond.com.au
Janet Doust	Bowral NSW 2576	02 4861 2997	janet.doust@telstra.com
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Judy Lewis	Merridown Carrara QLD 4211	07 5569 2345	metinka@bigpond.com
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Margaret Chaney		02 9802 6744	
Margaret Keith	Mittagong NSW 2575	02 4872 4132	wmdkeith1@bigpond.com
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Sharon Kay	Paddington NSW 2021	0413 318 994	sharonmkay@gmail.com
Wendy Hamilton	Winmalee NSW 2777	02 4754 4998	wendy@zarlee.com

NSW Government Legislation Changes - Reminder

The rules when selling or giving away a cat or dog changed on 1st July 2019 and people advertising kittens or cats (puppies or dogs) for sale or to give away in NSW need to include an identification number in advertisements and covers all forms of advertising. The ID number can either be:

- Microchip number
- Breeder Identification number
- Rehoming Organisation number

For more information, visit www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

2020 NSWCFA Show Calendar

Date	Club	Type
9 - 10 May 2020	Coffs Harbour Show Society - Cancelled	All Breeds
17-May-20	Sydney Fancy Felines - Cancelled	All Breeds
17-May-20	Birman Cat Club of Canberra (1) - Cancelled	All Breeds
30-May-20	Kempsey Kat Klub - Cancelled	All Breeds
6 - 7 June 2020	ACF National Show Perth WA - Postponed	All Breeds
14-Jun-20	Birman Cat Club of Australia - Cancelled	Group 1 only
20-Jun-20	Blue Point Siamese - Cancelled	All Breeds
28-Jun-20	ACT Longhair Show (1) - Cancelled	All Breeds
4 - 5 July 2020	CCCA National Show Melbourne VIC - Cancelled	All Breeds
18-Jul-20	Western Districts Cat Society	All Breeds
26-Jul-20	Southern Highlands Forest Cat Club	All Breeds
1-Aug-20	Newcastle & Hunter Valley Cat Club - Cancelled	All Breeds
8-Aug-20	Ku-Ring-Gai/Longhair/Himalayan Cat Clubs	Group 1 only
8-Aug-20	Abyssinian & Somali Cat Club - Cancelled	Groups 2/3 + Comp
15-Aug-20	Dorrigo & District Cat Club	All Breeds
22-Aug-20	Tamworth & District Cat Club - Cancelled	All Breeds
22-Aug-20	Capital Cats ACT Breeders (1) - Cancelled	All Breeds
29-Aug-20	Branxton Wine Country Cat Club	All Breeds
5-Sep-20	Canberra Forest Cat Club ACT (1)	All Breeds
12-Sep-20	NSWCFA Spring Show	All Breeds
19-Sep-20	Jacaranda & Holiday Coast Cat Club	All Breeds
26-Sep-20	Temora Show Society	All Breeds
3-Oct-20	Federal Cat Club of Australasia	All Breeds
10-Oct-20	Oriental Cat Club	All Breeds
17-Oct-20	North Coast National Show Society (Lismore)	All Breeds
24-Oct-20	All Breeds Desexed Cat Club	All Breeds