



MONTHLY Meow

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the NSW Cat Fanciers Association

OCTOBER
2020



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome all to our October issue of *Monthly Meow*.

News this month includes details of the Special General Meeting, which was held on 27 October, followed by our Annual General meeting, and General Meeting. The results of the Special General Meeting, where proposed resolutions to enable much needed updating of our Constitution were voted on, are as follows:

Resolutions Nos: 1 to 91: passed unanimously

Resolutions Nos 93 to 104: passed unanimously

Resolution 92: not passed by the required 75% of members voting

NB: Resolution 92 proposed a reduction – from 20 to 10 – in the quorum required at Annual General Meetings. As this resolution was not passed, the quorum for Annual General Meetings remains as 20.

We really appreciate those members who expressed their interest in these matters and were able to attend. Thank you all.

A Facebook discussion group for NSW CFA members has been launched recently and we encourage you to make use of this page.

This month's article of interest is "*Plants that are poisonous to cats*". See page 9.

Sue Thomas

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER and BREED	MEMBER and BREED
Mr A Gray (Persians)	Mrs S Brown (Russian Blue)
Mr J Rankmore (Russian Blue)	Ms J Brandwood (Siberian)
Mrs S Price (Tonkinese, Siamese, Oriental)	Mr D Strothers (Companion)
Ms J Norman (Russian Blue)	Mr J and Ms M Grant (American Shorthair)
Ms K Melville (Burmese)	Ms V Gumenna (Burmese)
Ms C Allison (Bengal)	Ms T Ross (Ragdoll)
Ms S Travers (Ragdoll)	Ms C Osborne (Bengal)
Ms M Cooper & Mr M Young (Russian Blue)	Mr L Ricco (Norwegian Forest Cat)
Mrs R Chehaita (Ragdoll)	Mrs M Chapman (Burmese)
Mrs S Good (British Shorthair)	Mrs L Cobacoglo (Burmese)
Mrs M Zhang (Ragdoll and Exotic)	Ms K Bardi (Ragdoll)
Ms S Haynes (Himalayan Persian)	Ms S Lindeman (Bengal)

We wish you a lengthy, happy and productive association with NSW CFA and look forward to seeing you at shows when our shows re-commence in 2021.



IN THE PIPELINE – what the Management Committee has been doing this month

- **Breeder Membership**

The MC has completed the review of requirements for obtaining breeder membership with NSW CFA and the grant of a (breeders) prefix. This has been undertaken partly as a response to current and proposed regulations, partly to promote responsible pet ownership and also to assist our breeder members. Thanks to Tracey Camp for her time in preparing this important document.

- **Amendments to the Constitution**

The MC has been working on the large job of updating the Constitution, which has not been amended since 2008. The updated Constitution, incorporating all of the amendments proposed and approved at the Special General Meeting on 27 October 2020, will be uploaded to the website after it has been submitted to NSW Fair Trading.

CONGRATULATIONS

As Sue advised in her President's message, our four incoming Management Committee members for 2020 are:



New Committee Member Marcelle Brown



Returning Committee Member Michelle Grayson



New Committee Member Melanie Martin



Returning Committee Member Sue Thomas

We hope that they find their new positions fulfilling and look forward to hearing more from them in the future.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

A new private Facebook Group has been created and is only available to current NSW CFA Financial Members. The content of the group should be driven by the members of the group.

You can find the Group by searching for NSW CFA Members Only or by clicking on the link in the post on our public page dated 25 October 2020.

“LET’S TALK SHOW BIZ”

As you will no doubt be aware, *Armidale & New England Cat Club* were the vanguard in the NSW CFA COVID show season and they are to be congratulated on staging a very successful COVID-safe show. To give due credit to the club and show participants, there will be a large segment with photos in the December issue of “*Catching Up*”. In the meantime, we are including just a couple of photos – one of the Show hall and another of one of our new companion judges, Frances Zewe, enjoying her assignment. If anyone has any photos of the show that they would like included in the December issue of “*Catching Up*”, please contact the NSW CFA administrator.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Kerry Fowler will be presenting a seminar on advanced genetics: “*Using DNA discoveries to understand inheritance genetics and appearance in cats*”. The presentation will be in **late November** – details of date and time will be posted on the FB page and the website when finalized. This seminar is hosted by NSW CFA and is free.

You are invited to a

Zoom Webinar

Cats, SARS CoV2 and COVID-19: what do we know?

We have learnt a lot in this last 11 months about a virus that has changed life as we know it. During this seminar we will discuss the evidence to date regarding which animals are susceptible to infection. The evidence provided will include global animal experiments as well as natural infection in the community. You will be able to ask any question you like to help navigate this difficult time.

SPEAKER: Jacqui Norris (Professor @University of Sydney)

Jacqui is a Professor of Veterinary Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the Sydney School of Veterinary Science, at the University of Sydney. She is a registered practicing veterinarian and is passionate about practical research projects and education programs for veterinary professionals, animal breeders and animal owners.

COST: Free

WHEN: Nov 19, 2020 04:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

HOW: Register in advance for this webinar:
<https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WNMDcToxsbT7SWgmMXzp4mFA>

Or an H.323/SIP room system:

H.323: 113.197.7.147 or 113.197.7.148

Meeting ID: 859 5638 1384

SIP: 8595638134@13.197.7.147 OR 85956381384@113.197.7.148

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

This webinar is proudly presented by:



SYDNEY FANCY
FELINES - ALL
BREEDS CAT
CLUB

For further information please email Joy Marshall (President SFF) at jdmarshall@gmail.com or Eva Krynda (Secretary) at evakrynda@gmail.com

COMPETITIONS

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEOW - COMPETITION RESULTS – BEST HEAD TYPE

Our September judges were Christine Tomlinson (Groups 1/2); Phillipa Perkins (Group 3) and Frances Zewe, one of our new companion judges (Companion section).



Francis Zewe: Frances has been involved with the cat fancy since 2014 as a member of the Armidale and New England Cat Club. In 2019 she expanded her interest in the cat fancy by training as a Steward and a Companion Cat Judge with NSW CFA. Frances is also a final year Veterinary Science student at Sydney University, so the cat fancy makes a fabulous hobby away from the vet textbooks! Francis enjoyed this on-line opportunity to meet your companion cats!

Group 1



Bushkenheim Kimani

1st place: Bushkenheim Kimani – owner Sheryl Murray/breeder Tracey Camp

2nd place: Glamara What a Hussy – owner/breeder Janet Doust

3rd Place: Grathbrae Woody – owner/breeder Cathy McGrath

4th Place: Bushkenheim Aksel – owner Sheryl Murray/breeder Tracey Camp

Group 2



Sinjin Sha Enya

1st place: Sinjin Sha Enya – owner/breeder Phillipa Perkins

2nd place: Zoel Voodoo Lady – owner/breeder Nikki James

3rd Place: Sinjin Santino – owner/breeder Phillipa Perkins

4th place: Zoel Luna – owner/breeder Nikki James

Group 3



American Shorthair Kitten

1st place: American Shorthair kitten – owner/breeder Melissa Grant

2nd place: Bellaspree Bossi Boi - owner Marcelle Brown/breeder Jacqueline Coles

3rd Place: Adora Zinkia - owner/breeder Melanie Martin

4th place: Ozki Rocky Road - owner Trish Scrivener/breeders K & L Harding

Companion – Prettiest Face



Hello Lady Tushka

1st place: Hello Lady Tushka – owner Lyn Keevers

2nd place: Vincent – owner Stephanie Richards

3rd Place: Autumn – owner Lyn Keevers

4th Place: Angie – owner Sheryl Murray

Congratulations to the first-place getters, who will receive a fabulous cat bed made by Mary Townley. Second to fourth place getters will also receive a prize. Thanks once again to all of those members who supported the competition.



“Beds by Mary”

OCTOBER COMPETITION

This month we are going to try a new format for the competition. Rather than emailing your photos to the office, we are asking you to post them on **the NSW CFA members only Facebook Page**. Please contact our Office Administrator if you need assistance or information. Closing date is 21 November.

There are two categories for the pedigree section this month: *"Most Photogenic"* and *"Pair of Cats"* (two cats of the same breed but not necessarily the same sex, colour or age). The category for the Companion section is *"Funniest Sleeping Position"*

There will again be separate sections for each of Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The judges are Christine Tomlinson (Groups 1 and 2); Sue Thomas (Group 3) and Lyn Keevers (Companion)

The winners will be announced in the November issue of the Monthly Meow.

We are very grateful to HomeoPet for their generous support of this month's competition - with their products for "Anxiety" and "Travel Anxiety" and encourage you to have a good look at their website: www.thepethealthstore.com.au



HomeoPet are pleased to continue to support our Feline friends and their families and announce exciting news in Australia. HomeoPet are very proud to have recently received a 2020 Vanguard Award in the Feline Health and Wellness Category. The Vanguard Awards are presented each year by Pet Insight Awards to spotlight a select group of manufacturers that are driving growth with innovative, relevant and solutions-based products that provide genuine benefits to pets and their owners.

Please go to www.thepethealthstore.com.au for more information about Feline Anxiety, Feline Digestive Upsets, Feline Furball, Feline UTI+ and Feline Skin and Itch as well as Leaks No More and Joint Stress or Travel Anxiety.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Plants that are toxic to cats

Please note that this list is incomplete, and flowers may appear different and come in more colours in real life.



Some links with further information

<https://pethelpful.com/cats/houseplants-poisonous-to-your-cats>

<https://www.petmd.com/cat/emergency/poisoning-toxicity/ect-poisonous-plants>

<https://www.rspcavic.org/cats-toxic-plants>

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

RSPCA Puppy “Farming” Taskforce - Report by Michelle Grayson

On 22 October 2020, Agriculture Minister Adam Marshall announced that the RSPCA were launching a newly formed Puppy Factory Taskforce, which is a “*dedicated hit squad to weed out rogue operators*”.

You might think that this only relates to puppies/dogs and right now, you are correct. It is, however, not a huge leap that this new Taskforce could be expanded to include Kitten Farms and that will definitely impact our members.

We have all seen pictures & heard stories of “puppy & kitten farms” and I’m sure all of us are sickened by the conditions that these animals live in & the way they are treated. The concern is that there is no definition of a “puppy farm” or who the “hit squad” will target or what criteria is being used to ‘assess’ the breeder or their premises.

Everyone, regardless of whether they are a commercial breeder, registered breeder, backyard breeder or pet owner, is responsible and accountable for the welfare of their animals under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* and the *Companions Animals Act*.

There is a push by the Animal Justice Party to bring in legislation that makes puppy farming illegal in NSW & I imagine that many of you support this. What you may not know is that the basis of ***the legislation is to mirror the situation in Victoria***, and we all know how that has turned out. The theory places a direct link between poor animal welfare and the number of animals a person has.

Minister Adam Marshall press announcement with RSPCA was posted to our public Facebook page on 23 October 2020.

NSW Court of Appeal decision on pets in strata

On 12 October 2020, the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of NSW handed down its decision in *Cooper v The Owners – Strata Plan Strata Plan No 58068 [2020] NSWCA 250*.

The Court of Appeal ruled that a by-law imposing a blanket ban on the keeping of animals at the Horizon apartment tower in Darlinghurst was oppressive and breached strata laws: section 139(1) of the Strata Schemes Management Act 2015 (the Act). In addition to making blanket pet ban by-laws invalid, the decision also sets an important precedent for how the principle of 'harsh, unconscionable or oppressive' is applied to by-laws under the Act, and is binding on lower Courts and the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (the Tribunal). If a lot owner or owners corporation are unsure or disagree on whether a by-law is oppressive, they can apply to the Tribunal for a decision. The statutory review of NSW strata schemes laws is due to start later this year. The review will closely examine how the Act deals with pet by-laws. Subscribe to Strata Update to find out when you can have your say on the review of strata laws. For more information on the Court of Appeal decision and by-laws on pets in strata schemes, visit the [by-laws in your strata scheme page](#) on NSW Fair Trading website.

Animal Care Australia (ACA) - report by Michelle Grayson

NSWCFA is a founding member of ACA and Michelle Grayson is the current secretary. The ACA President & Vice President recently met at Parliament House with NSW Shadow Ministers for animal-related portfolio's - the Hon. Mick Veitch, Jenny Aitchison (Primary Industries), Kate Washington (Environment) and Greg Warren (Local Government).

A key discussion with Greg Warren centered on the *Companion Animals Act* and how Councils are involved, including the failings of the current Pet Register and the fact that no checks are made to ensure breeders are registered with a recognised 'organisation' and as such the register is being used to gain BIN numbers for advertising their litters etc.

Head over to ACA's website or Facebook page to see what's being worked on & show your support by joining ACA as a Club (ACA member) or an Individual (Supporter).
<https://www.animalcareaustralia.org.au/join/>

FEEDBACK NEEDED

The Committee is considering running some workshops next year subject to member interest and any COVID-19 restrictions. We are interested in your feedback about the following possibilities:

- Show workers workshop – card writing etc.
- Stewards course – to be run later in the year, after the Show workers workshop
- Grooming and presentation workshop
- Possible new award – **“Debutante Award”**. To be eligible for this award, the following criteria would apply: *Your kitten’s first show must be in the kitten class and your kitten must win a best or reserve in group to qualify. If your kitten becomes an adult during the show year, then any best or reserve in groups gained as an adult will count towards the debutante award.*



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



REMINDERS

- **NSW CFA Code of Ethics**
Our breeder members are reminded of their obligations, in relation to the sale of kittens, under the NSW CFA Code of Ethics. A link to this document can be found at: <http://www.nswcfa.asn.au/index.php?page=ethics>
- **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 informat

Meow A Genetic Concert for Cats
by Australian author
Dr Kerry Fowler MSc PhD

'Meow' is a key reference book for cat breeders, owners, judges and veterinarians who are curious about the genetic makeup, DNA testing and diversity of pedigree cat breeds.

Peek inside, and find chapters, tables and a glossary describing what is scientifically known about the genes responsible for the multitude of different coat colours and patterns, hair lengths and compositions, eye colours and structural features that are seen in cats. Enjoy images of a rare russet Burmese kitten whose coat colour dramatically changes during development.

Be challenged by theories about genes such as dilute modifier, O gene, silver inhibitor, wideband and solving the origin of the Ragdoll cat mystery. Understand how to interpret DNA test results for coat colour, pattern and length; what to do when DNA test results do not make sense; the pros and cons of outcrossing cat breeds; the potential effect of diet and environment on gene activity; the quality control role of cat judges and limitations of breed standards.

'Meow' has been hailed as 'MeWow' and described as an 'Excellent book! It nicely bridges the gap between modern DNA technology and inheritance genetics without being overwhelming.'

This reference book was launched at the 45th Australian Cat Federation Inc. National Show in June 2017 with ACF President Sandi Gemmell (middle) and GCCFV Inc. Show Manager Lesley Freemann (right). 'Meow' paperback and eBook were last updated in March 2020 and has been eagerly embraced by 'thrilled' cat fanciers in Australia, Argentina, Austria, China, Denmark, Finland, Hong Kong, Japan, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Ukraine, UK and US.

The author, Dr Kerry Fowler MSc PhD (left) has combined her scientific career in biomedical genetics and experience judging all cat breeds throughout Australia and New Zealand to 'have made a lot of people happy with this wonderful book' including those who have been 'over the moon to receive it'.

Meow A Genetic Concert for Cats
Paperback (2020)

AU\$30 plus postage by Australia Post satchel to interstate and international addresses. Payment by EFT (within Australia) or Pay Pal or Western Union (via worldwide Post Office) is available.

eBook (2020)

Available on Amazon, Booktopia, Kobo and other favourite online eBook providers

Book enquiries, contact Kerry

E: janet_kez@hotmail.com

T: +61 3 9397 2529

