



The CAT Clinic Catalyst

FEBRUARY 2007



It's all about Cats

Ph: 9417 6613

www.catclinic.com.au



It's all about growing older! And It's ^{still} all About Cats!



The Cat Clinic is now 1/8 of a Century old and it is time for a facelift. Our regulars will be seeing changes to the front of our house with new displays, logos, signage and information, and the net savvy will notice our new look website. What doesn't change, though, is our commitment to giving the best of care to your cat. And like Good Wine, we hope we are getting better with age!

The Cat Clinic opened (over the road) on 1st August 1994, though it had been incubating in Dr Kim's mind since 1986. On checking through old diaries, Dr Kim discovered a few amazing things: many of the clients who visited the Cat Clinic in the first few months still bring their cats to us! Many are the same cats even! So we decided to highlight the two branches of ownership where we can help you and your cat: longevity from regular maintenance check ups

and early intervention strategies so you keep your current cat for as long as there is a quality of life, AND help in finding a new feline friend to suit your household when the time comes. Since some cats live for 20 years, they can survive 2 marriages and 3 careers, so your requirements of feline companionship may well have changed! But cats are so accommodating that we can usually find the purrfect fit!

You Are What You Eat!

Ask us about whether your feline friend is getting the best food for their age.

SIZE matters

Bring your feline friend for a Weight and Body Condition Check Up (FREE!). If your cat is getting a bit round, NOW is the time to adjust the food!

Kidneys Count

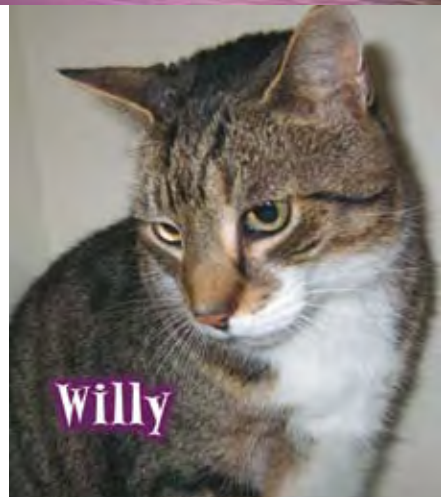
Cats over the age of Eight Human Years need regular Kidney Assessments. Make sure your older cat has their Urine and Blood Pressure tested Next Time they visit!

Kitten Kinder

If you (or a friend!) are considering getting a new feline friend, TALK TO US about the Kitten Basics. And book your baby cat into Kitten Kinder - it is fun for ALL the family!

The Survivors

'Willy' Barrett was the first kitten we ever homed. As we are now up over 2,500, he is part of quite a big 'family'. He did not get off to a great start - his mumcat bore him and his sisters in the roof of a local house, and the owners of the house brought them in when they were 6 weeks old. The Barrett family turned up not long after to collect him and he has been with them since 1/11/94. Willy has been a pretty low maintenance cat over the last 12 years - a car accident, couple of fights, a sprained knee and some acne (yes acne!) are par for the course for an outdoor cat, and some dental treatments like every cat who doesn't brush their own teeth. He's been lucky in many ways, especially in his choice of human family, and we see him nearly every year to board, so we pick up on any changes. Truly an integral long-term member of the Cat Clinic family as well!



Willy

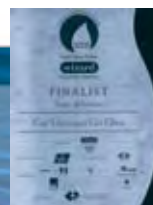
'Onyx' Rudnik came in as our 13th patient! Must have been a lucky number for her, as she is still going strong at 14 years old. She has had several of the problems common to all cats, including food and flea allergies, blood poisonings and infections, and finally her teeth gave out and she had all her back teeth removed. She has blossomed again since then and is back to low maintenance.



Onyx

Our 12th patient, 'Muffin' Timms, only recently passed away at the grand old age of 20!

EAST CHATSWOOD CAT CLINIC
329 Penshurst St. Willoughby 2068



The Second Wave

Wendy and Robert Taylor brought us their cat **'Cuddles'** on our 4th day of opening and she was our 3rd patient. Dr Kim cared for her for many years - in fact Cuddles was very interesting - she had a heart condition but outlasted the Feline Specialist's prediction of an 18 month survival time by several years! The Taylor's knew that 'A House Without a Cat is Not a Home' and they found themselves taking home a new feline friend in October 2002. They called her **Kim**, and she has benefited from the excellent training that Cuddles did on the Taylors!

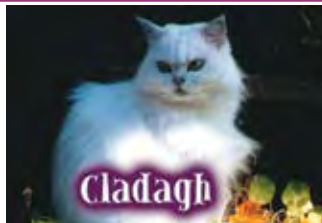


Glenda Hewitt found that the Cat's Pyjamas boarding facility here made her life a whole lot easier. She brought her original pair of felines to us to board and be safe while she had to be elsewhere on business, and we took over the veterinary care of **Cee Cee** and **Libby**. Cee Cee got himself a rare cancer early on, but Libby was a bit like the 'Berger paint' motto - she just kept on keeping on, through major abdominal surgery and then finally



kidney problems, till she was well over 16 years old. Libby was also in residence to train the next generation - **Woody** (who has an unusual type of early onset diabetes) and also **Bianca**, another young cat who needed a second chance.

The Cat Clinic has also been an integral part of Michelle Niemeyer's life. She brought us her chinchilla cat **Cladagh** in early 1995, and we saw them through regular groomings and 'old cat problems' such as hyperthyroidism and kidney failure till Cladagh finally ran out of steam at 18 years old. It took two kittens to fill the gap (and we find it is often the case, and besides pairs of kittens are paradoxically lower maintenance). After a difficult early run with nearly every common kitten ailment, **Newt** and **Sweet Pea** have finally settled into being routine maintenance cats - just in time to move to Tasmania! Dr Kim is fully expecting to do some long distance counselling at least, but we all wish them well on the Apple Isle.



The Secrets to Feline Longevity:

Know (and Love) Thy Cat

- that's easy - and your contribution to the history and description of changes in your cat's appearance, behaviour and walking or jumping styles are Vital to Dr Kim's understanding of where to begin looking for a problem. We need you there when you bring your feline friend in!

Routine Assessments of Weight, Mobility, Teeth and Diet

(what was appropriate last year may not be Optimum this year - young cats grow up quickly, and a year in an older cat's life is still 3 of ours). And often a full assessment requires Urine and Blood Tests and Blood Pressure Measurement - cats don't put all their information on the outside or where Dr Kim can feel it! You need your cat checked at least annually - and the 'oldies' visit every couple of months. Dr Kim says we all get old and expensive - but by then we're worth it!

Maintenance Lifestyle Plans

regarding Worms, Vaccinations, Fleas, Heartworms, Identification and Holiday Issues! Seasons change and people move houses, so the plan needs to be updated. Phone us now and ask us how!

How Old is Your Cat?

And all these cats' files have survived from paper files and through 4 computer software changes! Nothing like human contact to maintain consistency and regularity to keep track of things as cats go through their life cycle!

Many will live past their 1/8 century - which equates being 65 for humans, especially with improvements in detection and treatment of the Ailments of the Elderly. Arthritis, Kidney Disease, Intestinal Lymphoma, Diabetes and Hyperthyroidism top the list - and the good news is that, particularly when detected early, they can all be managed for a very long time, which means you can keep your venerable feline friend around, and delay having to learn new feline rules! The Oldest recorded cat lived to 36 years old, the oldest we've had at the Cat Clinic was 26 ! Now THAT'S old!



If you want to receive these newsletters and other items of interest by email, please send your cat's name and your name in an email to catclinic@catclinic.com.au. All seminar and other information goes out electronically first!

**EAST CHATSWOOD CAT CLINIC PH: 9417 6613
329 PENSHURST ST. WILLOUGHBY NSW 2068**

Easy parking – Rear lane W22 access off Victoria Avenue and OPEN 7 DAYS

Produced by Rayzor Sharpe Designs – Ph: 9869 3664 • Email: rayzor@rayzorsharpedesigns.com.au