



NOVEMBER 2017 EDITION of the



CATCALL MAGAZINE



The Official Journal of
CatsWA (Feline Control
Council of WA (Inc))



November 2017

Catcall is the OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF CatsWA

Any opinions expressed in the magazine are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of CatsWA (the Feline Control Council of W.A. (Inc)) or the Editor.

Advertising:

CatsWA accepts no responsibility for the contents of advertisements. All advertisements are accepted in good faith and the advertising content is the responsibility of the advertiser.



CatsWA CONTACT DETAILS

Office address: Unit 3/8 Royal Street, Kenwick WA 6107

Office phone number: (08) 9452 2885

Office email: catswa@inet.net.au

Website: www.fcc-wa.com

Postal Address: Post Office Box 915, Cannington WA 6107

CatsWA Office is currently open on Wednesdays only. Please check before you call into the office as volunteer staff it and sometimes they may not be available and we have to close the office at short notice.

When the office is not attended, you can leave a phone message or send an email and someone will get back to you.

If the matter is urgent, please contact the appropriate Council member directly.

CatsWA Registrars Carole Galli and Margaret Bush

Titles and Office Judy Kluczniak 0403 524 172

Notice of Annual General Meeting

CatsWA Annual General Meeting

Date: 22 January 2018

Venue: CatsWA Office 3/8 Royal St Kenwick

Time: 7.30pm

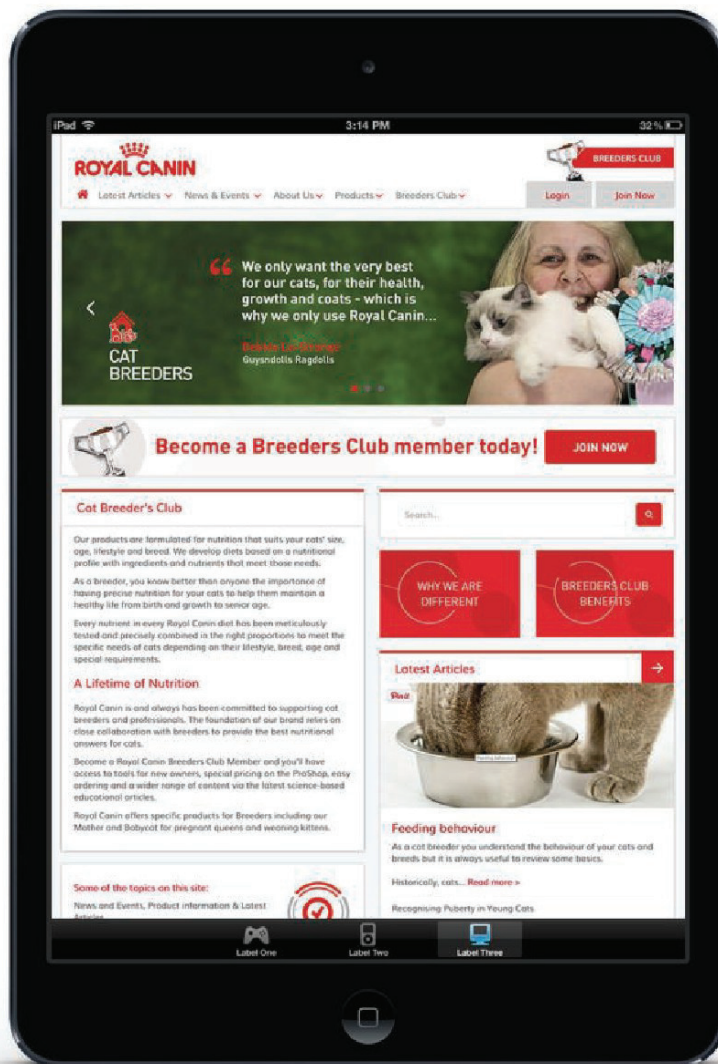
Motions for the agenda must be lodged at the CatsWA Office PO Box 915 Cannington WA 6107

Closing Date for Motions: 11 December 2017

All members are welcome to attend. As this is an AGM only agenda item's can be discussed. An agenda will be circulated to members 21 days prior to the meeting.

Our Sponsors





Looking for
articles,
webinars
and videos
on Cat
breeding,
nutrition
and more?

VISIT THE
ROYAL CANIN
BREEDERS
WEBSITE

JOIN OUR BREEDERS CLUB

- Online ordering
- Breeder Discounts
- Free Freight
- Kitten Packs
- Promotions
- Access to scientific articles

JOIN NOW

breeders.
royalcanin
.com.au

Code of Conduct for all members

Did you know that CatsWA has a code of conduct?

A code of conduct is really important because it acts as a guide and reference for all members. It helps to clarify CatsWA's values and principles and is a visible statement to the rest of the world what we stand for. Anyone who deals with CatsWA can look at our Code of Conduct and they will get a sense of who we are and what is important to us. Our Code of Conduct incorporates the standard of ethics that our breeders abide by and provides a reference point for Governing Council when they are dealing with any situations that may arise.

The full code of conduct can be found on our website www.fcc-wa.com

General Principles of Conduct

General principles to guide the behaviour of CatsWA members include that all members must:

- a) Act with reasonable care and diligence
- b) Act with honesty and integrity
- c) Act lawfully
- d) Avoid damage to the reputation of the CatsWA
- e) Treat others with respect and fairness.
- f) Abide by any rules, regulations or guidelines as determined by CatsWA including Breeding, Showing, membership of Governing Council or any other activity. Such regulations will be available on the CatsWA website.
- g) Comply with the WA Cat Act (2011) and any other relevant legislation.

Don't forget to keep an eye out on our website for news, updates and show schedules. Our kitten page, is an extension of the breeder's directory, and helps to link those breeders who are registering kittens with potential kitten buyers.

www.fcc-wa.com

Looking for ways to get involved?

Why not join one of the clubs? CatsWA has several clubs, which are a great way to get to know people. Clubs run the shows and are always happy for people to come along and learn how a show works.

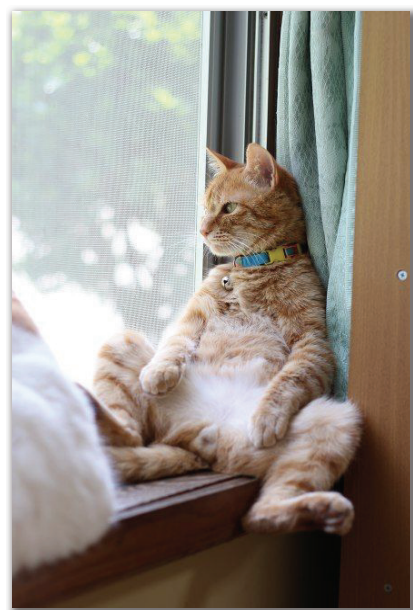
| | |
|--|---|
| British Shorthair Cat Club Sec: Pamela Lanigan 0419 940 025 | Oriental Shorthair Cat Club Sec: Susan Game 0409 082 395 |
| Feline All Breeds Society (Inc) Sec: Margaret Bush (08) 9535 3239 | Southern and Siamese Cat Club TBC |
| Paws and Claws Cat Club Sec: Linda Horton Mob: 0431 487 841 | W.A. Cat Club Sec: Maree Carle Mob: 0408 925 205 |
| W.A. Shorthair Cat Club Sec: Helen Colleran (08) 9459 8982 | |

Some of these clubs are no longer active or have changed office bearers. Please contact the editor at catswa@iinet.net.au to update your information.

Any club news? Here is the place to list it.

Show dates

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 02 December 2017 | Osborne Park Agricultural Show |
| 25 February 2018 | British SH Cat Club Show |
| 25 March 2018 | CatsWA |
| 29 April 2018 | CatsWA |
| 27 May 2018 | CatsWA |
| 09-10 June 2018 | ACF Nationals |
| 24 June 2018 | CatsWA |
| 15 July 2018 | CatsWA |
| 21/22 July 2018 | CCCA National |
| 26 August 2018 | OSCC |
| 22 September 2018 | British |
| Sep/Oct | Royal Show |
| 21 October 2018 | CatsWA |
| tba | Osborne Park Show |



Bring it on

Fees and charges

Annual renewal of Membership is due on 1st November each year

| <u>Membership</u> | Yr | 5 Yr | <u>Titles</u> | |
|-------------------------------|------|-------|-------------------------------|------|
| Joint membership | \$70 | \$280 | Title confirmation | \$10 |
| Single membership | \$50 | \$200 | Title with ribbon | \$25 |
| Single Pensioner or associate | \$25 | \$100 | Supreme Title inc. ribbon | \$25 |
| Joint Pensioner or associate | \$35 | \$100 | ACF AoE (payable too ACF Inc) | \$25 |
| Junior (under 18) | \$25 | \$100 | | |

| <u>Prefix</u> | | <u>Clubs</u> | |
|--|------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Initial application | \$25 | Nomination for Affiliation | \$30 |
| Renewal (annual) | \$15 | Affiliation inc. insurance | \$200 |
| Transfers (single/joint or vice versa) | \$10 | Printing own award certs (per ring) | \$15 |
| Transfer from other body | \$10 | | |

| <u>Breeders Directory</u> | | <u>Shows</u> | |
|---------------------------|------|---------------------------------|--------|
| Per entry | \$15 | Challenge/Award of Merit Certs. | \$0.65 |
| | | Standard of Points | Tba |

| <u>Registrations</u> | | <u>Catcall</u> (Membership includes Catcall) | |
|--|------|---|--------|
| Per kitten within 70 days of birth | \$10 | <i>Free downloads from CatsWA Inc website</i> | |
| Late fees (per wk/part wk per kitten) | \$2 | Members extra copies posted | \$6.50 |
| Pet Cat | \$10 | Non-members within Australia | \$18 |
| Corrections to registrations | \$8 | | |
| Duplicate copies of registrations | \$8 | | |
| Copy of pedigree | \$8 | | |

| <u>Re-registration</u> | | <u>Advertising Rates</u> | | |
|---|------|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Cat registered with another body in WA | \$10 | Page Size | Per Issue | 4 Issues |
| Cat registered outside of WA but within Australia | \$25 | <i>Members</i> | | |
| Cat registered outside of Australia | \$50 | Full | \$32 | \$110 |
| | | Half | \$20 | \$70 |
| | | Quarter | \$12 | \$40 |
| | | <i>Commercial</i> | | |
| | | Full | \$80 | \$300 |
| | | Half | \$50 | \$180 |
| | | Quarter | \$30 | \$100 |
| | | Rear Cover | \$120 | \$400 |
| | | Inside Rear | \$100 | \$340 |
| | | Inside Front | \$100 | \$340 |

Cats **MUST** be transferred into your name with the other Body before they can be re-registered with CatsWA (Inc). Please Note: Cats and kittens cannot be shown in your name until the re-registration has been affected in our records.

Members of ACF (Inc) Affiliates (includes relevant issues posted)

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------|
| Full | \$50 | \$180 |
| Half | \$30 | \$100 |
| Quarter | \$12 | \$36 |
| Stud Listing | per issue | \$15 |
| Artwork | Add | \$10 |

| <u>Transfers</u> | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Initial transfer – non breeding | Nil |
| Initial transfer – breeding | \$30 |
| Subsequent transfers – Members | \$6 |
| Subsequent transfers – Non-members | \$10 |

| <u>Leases</u> | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Recorded in CatsWA (Inc) records | \$15 |

| <u>Certified Pedigrees</u> | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Members (5 generations) | \$35 |
| Members (4 generations) | \$20 |
| Non-members (4 generations) | \$30 |

2017 Governing Council Members

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| President | Carole Galli (08) 9455 1481 |
| Vice President | T.B.A. |
| Secretary | Maree Carle 0408 925 205 |
| Treasurer | Michelle Harris 0413 394 625 |
| Councillors | Janis Thompson, Judy Kluczniak, Susan Game |

Sub-Committees & Convenors

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Judge Training | Susan Game (0409 082 395) and Betty Payne (08) 9525 0071 |
| Experimental Breeding | Susan Game |
| Steward Training | Susan Game |
| Cat Act 2011 | Linda Horton |
| Fundraising and grants | Janis Thompson |
| Show Cages | Carole Galli |
| Cat of the Year points | Linda Horton |
| Cat Call Editors | Philip & Janis Thompson |
| Website | Maree Carle and Linda Horton |

CATSWA JUDGES

| | | | |
|---|------------------------|--|------------------------|
| MARGARET BUSH (08) 9535 3239 margaret_bush@outlook.com | ALL BREEDS | PAMELA LANIGAN 0419 940 025 cuddleton@optiic.com | GROUP 2 & 3 |
| JENNY CASOTTI (08) 9295 2658 purrever@bigpond.com | GROUP 3 | BETTY PAYNE (09) 9525 0071 pyret@bigpond.net.au | ALL BREEDS |
| CAROLE GALLI (08) 9455 1481 admin@roellencattery.com.au | GROUP 2 & 3 | LEE-ANNE PITMAN-PRYDE 0423 115 533 kinabalu15@virginbroadband.com.au | ALL BREEDS |
| SUSAN GAME 0409 082 395 ssgame@inet.net.au | ALL BREEDS | NICK SKEET 0423 821303 riordanburmese@yahoo.com.au | GROUP 3 |
| KIRSTY CONNELL (08) 9455 1230 mewsingsragdolls.yahoo.com | GROUP 1 | | |

TRAINEE CATSWA JUDGES

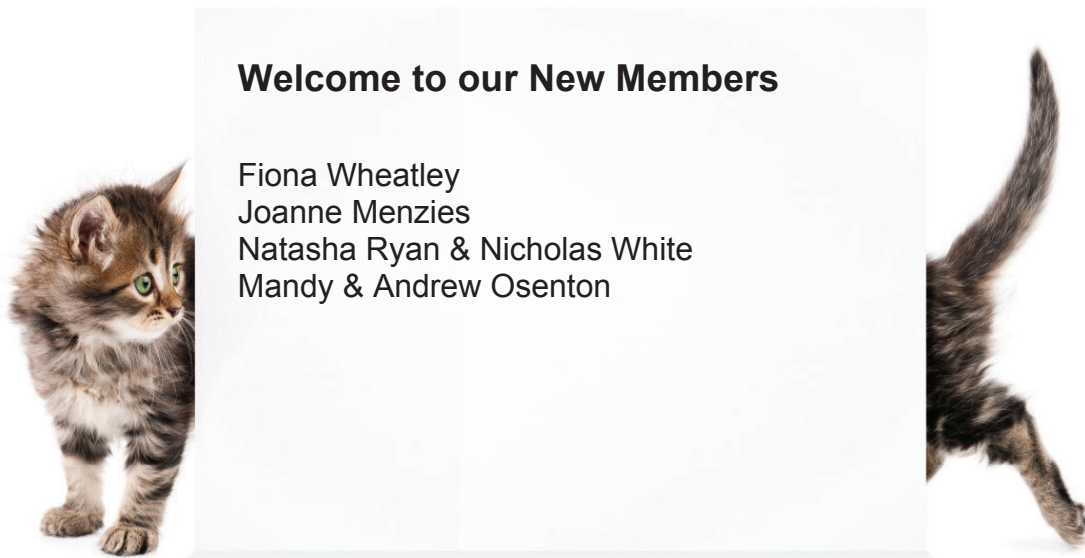
| | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| MICHELLE HARRIS | GROUP 1 | PAMELA LANIGAN | GROUP 1 |
| CAROLE GALLI | GROUP 1 | NICK SKEET | GROUP 2 |

All judges may judge group 4.

Members wishing to become judges are welcome to contact Judge Training Conveners Susan Game or Betty Payne where they will be given full support and encouragement.

CATSWA STEWARD TRAINING

Stewards play a very important role in our shows and accreditation courses are conducted during the year. Contact Susan Game – 0409 082 395.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

1 NOVEMBER 2017 - MEMBERSHIPS DUE

11 DECEMBER 2017 - CLOSING DATE FOR MOTIONS FOR THE AGM

13 DEC – 17 JAN 2017 - CATSWA OFFICE CLOSED

22 JANUARY 2018 - CATSWA AGM – 7.30 PM – CATSWA OFFICE 3/8 ROYAL ST KENWICK

22 JANUARY – THERMOMIX RAFFLE DRAW



Lucy Nikiforos **27.11.1967 – 8.10.2017**

On 8 October this year the WA Cat Fancy lost a remarkable breeder and exhibitor. Lucy is best known around the world for her award winning Russian cats, always blue, but she also bred and loved the Abyssinians dressed in silver.

The Abyssinians were her greatest challenge and over the last two years she exhibited some remarkable examples of this breed that regularly placed. These wins, meant more to her in some ways than the many Supreme in Show awards won by her Russians. Lucy came to Australia to marry John (Nik) 20 years ago. She grew up in the UK with a love of horses and competing. We all know that Lucy LOVED the competition, particularly at the Royal and National Shows. I asked Lucy why she didn't continue with horse eventing in Australia and she replied "My back yard and bank account are both too small to keep horses".

Lucy purchased her first cat and was deeply disappointed at her first show when her cat placed second in a class of one! This gave her an idea that perhaps she wasn't a show quality cat and thus the quest to breed a show winner began. Lucy researched and contacted breeders around the world and quickly realised there was no consistent breed standard. Never mind, she would just make her own and that is exactly what she did. A Kimara Russian has that special look that you can pick at shows and in photos.

Lucy formed strong friendships with Maree and Mel who joined her in her quest. Ever the coach and mentor she was generous with other breeders who genuinely wanted to improve their breeding. Not so much with people who were only interested in buying a show stopper. She used to say. "you need to breed your own show stoppers, not buy them".

Lucy was a show colleague but especially a friend. We both began our judges training in 2013 and had many late night phone calls and exchange of photos we had found of particular breeds. I would hear the ping of my computer and a message with a photo would arrive, "what do you think of this? Or what is this meant to be? An hour later we would still be chatting either online or on the phone about what we had found. This was most time consuming when we started Group 2. Those ears! How big should they be and where should they sit on the head? Many hours I will cherish in my memories.

When Lucy started cancer treatment I began buying her hats. The most memorable of course was the Burmilla hat with the sequin ears. This hat featured at a lot of local shows and even on the podium for the National presentations in 2016! I did also buy a blue cat hat but the silver one was the favourite, perhaps really showing her love for silver cats.



Lucy was at the very first cat show I attended and I think it was only one year when she was overseas, at cat shows in Europe and the UK, that she missed a show. Always a tall figure holding up cats for the judges and never still.

Lucy will be missed but forever stay young in my memories.

Carole Galli

About a three weeks after Lucy passed away I think it hit me that she was gone. I was there for her last moments and for the service where we said goodbye but I could still fool myself into feeling that I had just not heard from her for a while. I realised then that the thing I missed the most was telling her stupid things, laughing over funny things our cats did and making fun of each other, even sending each other photos of milk. Yes that was one of our weirder things!

When she was sick Lucy didn't want lots of comforting words. I found out that she had lost the support of her legs when she sent me a message saying that she had slid down the artex wall in the hallway at home. I could have replied "oh no you poor thing" but instead she got "I hope you don't have butt burn". She loved it.

When she had to go to Fiona Stanley we never knew when she would be able to go home. I always got the simple message "jailbreak" most often sent as Nick was hitting the freeway to take her home. Classic Lucy.

Some things will never be the same now she is gone. Mucking about with her and Kirsty while we stewarded at shows, seeing her present a cat so beautifully, shopping the stall at the nationals with her and hearing "ohh I like that". Over our fifteen years of friendship I remember smiles, advice, laughter, anger at injustice, creative solutions to problems and a passion for her cats and her hobby. I remember friendship and someone who was taken way too soon.

She will always be in our hearts and our memories. I miss her every day.

Pamela Lanigan

CatsWA Cat of the Year Results



| Result | Cat | Owner |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Best Entire | Siarod Frecoso | Sue Game |
| Best Kitten | Cuddleton Duchess Simone | Pamela Lanigan |
| Best Desexed | Kimara Azar Whistling Jack | Carole Galli |
| Breeder of the Year | Sue Game | |
| Reserve Breeder of the Year | Lucy Nikiforos | |
| 3rd Breeder of the Year | Janis Thompson | |
| Best Group 1 Desexed | Mewsings Edge of Glory | Kinabalu Cattery |
| Reserve Group 1 Desexed | Loveforever Dan | Judy Kluczniak |
| Best Group 1 Entire | Richdean Heart Throb | Deanne Kestel |
| Reserve Group 1 Entire | Zhivago Prince Harry | Janis Thompson |
| Best Group 1 Kitten | Zhivago Aramis | Janis Thompson |
| Reserve Group 1 Kitten | Zhivago Sharla | Janis Thompson |
| Best Group 2 Desexed | Chicas Heartbeat | Sue Game |
| Reserve Group 2 Desexed | Chicas Xanthus Kumo | Janet Bornman |
| Best Group 2 Entire | Siarod Frecoso | Sue Game |
| Reserve Group 2 Entire | Chicas Queenie | Sue Game |
| Best Group 2 Kitten | Chicas Babychampers | Sue Game |
| Reserve Group 2 Kitten | Startrill Discovery Dax | Evelyn Keuh |
| Best Group 3 Neuter | Kimara Azar Whistling Jack | Carole Galli |
| Reserve Group 3 Neuter | Mesmereyes Silver Sendree | Carole Galli |
| Best Group 3 Spay | Tachali Princess Opal | Maree Carle |
| Reserve Group 3 Spay | Nicody Mischa | Diana Nixon |
| Best Group 3 Entire Female | Kimara Mystery Blu Evelynna | Lucy Nikiforos |
| Reserve Group 3 Entire Female | Kimara Blu Shimma Aschea | Lucy Nikiforos |
| Best Group 3 Entire Male | Ambritt Here Comes Ralphie | Pamela Lanigan |
| Reserve Group 3 Entire Male | Intrigue Rumour Has It | Janis Thompson |
| Best Group 3 Female Kitten | Cuddleton Duchess Simone | Pamela Lanigan |
| Reserve Group 3 Female Kitten | Ambritt Time Spent Together | Pamela Lanigan |
| Best Group 3 Male Kitten | Mesmereyes Silver De Cramont | Carole Galli |
| Reserve Group 3 Male Kitten | Tachali Czar Dimitri | Maree Carle |
| Best Group 4 | La La Lord of the Rings | Sandra Hayes |
| Reserve Group 4 | Oops a Daisy | Kirsty Connell |
| Best Group 1 (Non CatsWA) | Alure King of My Jungle | Anne Newton |
| Best Group 2 (Non CatsWA) | Malingbu Seal Shajhan | Debra Copeland |
| Best Group 3 (Non CatsWA) | Devonsdrk Chloe | Louise Larkin |

“In the **cat health** section we also cover some **health** problems that are common to **cats**, so you don't have to wait for your yearly vet check to pick them up. Things like hair loss, dehydration, fleas, ticks and worms, are all issues that need to be dealt with as soon as possible”.

CatsWA do-not profess to being health professionals and all of their articles are for information purposes only therefore it is important that your felines health be checked at least once a year by your preferred Vet.

HEALTH & WELFARE MATTERS



Flat chested kitten syndrome

Flat chested kittens, characterised by a dorsoventral flattening of the rib cage, are well recognised by breeders but are not well reported in the veterinary literature.

They have been seen in many cat breeds but are more commonly encountered in [Burmese](#), [Bengals](#) and [Orientals](#).

Kittens with flat chests have a thoracic deformity that begins cranially around the forelimbs, and is characterised by sharp angulation at the costo-chondral junction causing marked dorso-ventral (top to bottom) flattening of the rib cage. There may be cranial thoracic vertebral kyphosis (ventral deviation of the spine towards the ground) and dorsal deviation of the sternum.

Affected kittens present with clinical signs of:

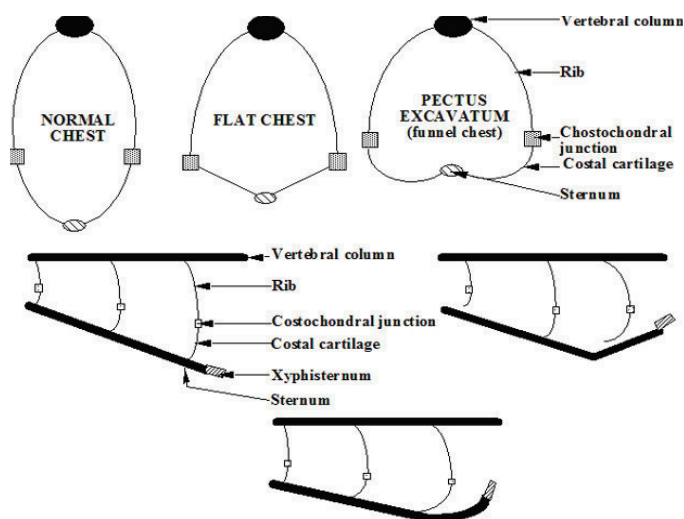
- Weight loss or failure to gain weight
- Failure to suck from the queen
- Increased respiratory rate and effort

Most kittens remain bright and active unless severely affected. In those kittens that survive, the deformity will become less obvious as the kitten grows and is frequently unnoticeable in the adult although little change in the spinal deformity occurs.

The condition is variable in severity from very mildly affected kittens reported to be flat chested for short periods (hours to days) to severely affected kittens where the prognosis is very guarded. Anecdotal reports suggest there is a heritable component to the condition, but other factors including environmental influences also appear important.

The speed at which changes in the thoracic shape occur, its transient nature (in some

kittens) and flexibility of skeletal system in the new-born make it unlikely that this condition is a primary skeletal deformity or connective tissue abnormality. This would tend to suggest that some myopathy involving the intercostal and diaphragmatic muscles may well be involved.



Information on HOW TO TREAT FLAT-CHESTED KITTEN SYNDROME can be found at www.ramesescats.co.uk/health/FCKS/FCKStreatment/

CAT FLEAS – The Summer Plague

Cat fleas at a glance:

About: Cat fleas are a common parasite that lives on the fur and skin of cats, feeding on the cat's blood.

Transmission: Cats become infested when they come into contact with fleas in the environment, another animal or even when humans bring fleas inside. Fleas not only cause discomfort but can also transmit diseases, parasites and cause anemia.

Symptoms:

- Scratching
- Excessive grooming
- Crusty papules and open sores along the back and around the neck due to an allergic reaction
- Allergic reaction to the saliva, producing crusty sores on the back and around the neck
- Salt and pepper debris where the cat sleeps, which is flea eggs and feces
- Pale gums (if anemic)
-

Treatment: Kill adult fleas on the cat and treat the environment. Veterinary prescribed flea treatments are the most effective, they come in topical form applied to the skin on the neck or tablet form.

How do I know if my cat has fleas?

Most pet owners are unaware their cat has fleas until they notice their cat scratching. Some cats can have very heavy infestations without being bothered, other cats are extremely

sensitive to the saliva in a flea-bite and just one flea can be enough to cause him to itch and scratch.

The most common signs of a flea infestation include:

- **Itching, biting and scratching**, especially around the neck, ears and around the base of the tail.
- **Crusting papules and sores**: Some cats are sensitive to the saliva in the flea bite and may develop crusting, this is particularly common along the back and around the neck.
- **Salt and pepper**: You may notice flea eggs and droppings in his coat or bedding. Flea eggs are white, droppings are dark red, giving the appearance of salt and pepper.

To check for fleas, carefully go through your cat's fur, paying close attention to the base of the tail and around the neck. Cat fleas are brown in colour with a flat body, and approximately 2 mm in length.

Effects of fleas on your cat

Fleas are more than a nuisance, they can have a serious impact on your cat's health and comfort. Heavy infestations can lead to anemia, especially in young kittens. A lot of cats develop an allergy to flea saliva, which is known as flea allergy dermatitis, an extremely uncomfortable condition characterised by itching, biting and scratching along with multiple papules. Left untreated, repeated biting and scratching can damage the skin and lead to a bacterial infection. Fleas have the potential to transmit a number of diseases on to cats including tapeworm, plague, bartonellosis, tularemia, feline infectious anemia and rickettsia.



Life Cycle of the flea

To combat fleas, it is important to understand their life cycle. There are 4 stages of the flea life cycle, known as metamorphosis.

Only 5% are actually adult fleas, which would live on your cat, the remainder are found in the environment in the form of eggs (50%), larvae (35%) and pupae (10%). It is absolutely vital to treat both your pet and the environment (home and garden) if you are to combat fleas.

1) Adult flea:

The adult flea emerges when it is stimulated by environmental factors such as vibrations, warmth or breath of the host. The flea can come out of its cocoon within seconds of stimulation. The lifespan of an adult flea is around 2 – 3 months. The adult flea is around 1.5 – 4mm long, and dark brown or black in appearance. Adults suck blood from their host. Adult fleas begin laying eggs within 36 – 48 hours of their first blood meal. A female flea consumes up to 15 times her body weight in blood per day.

2) Egg:

At .5mm in length, flea eggs are barely visible to the human eye, the female flea lays approximately one egg per hour. The flea egg is whitish, smooth and dry and easily falls off the coat into the environment. Flea eggs hatch in around 1 – 10 days, depending on conditions. Flea eggs and flea droppings are often found together. When the cat scratches the eggs along with the droppings fall off the cat. The droppings provide food to the larvae when they hatch. The eggs and droppings together have the appearance of salt and pepper. Environmental conditions such as humidity, light, and temperature determine how quickly and how many flea larvae hatch from flea eggs. The lower the temperature, the fewer larvae will hatch. Optimal conditions for flea larvae to hatch are 70% and higher and temperatures of 21 – 32 degrees C (70 – 89 degrees F).

Flea eggs fall off the cat when it jumps, scratches, moves and sleeps. Eggs are found all over the home, but in their highest concentrations in your cat's preferred spots such as bedding.

3) Larvae:

The larvae are vermiform (maggot like) like in appearance and up to 6mm long, flea larvae avoid light by residing deep in carpet fibres, under furniture and rugs and in crevices. At this stage, they have no legs or eyes but have chewing mouthparts. Flea larvae feed on adult flea excrement, food debris, and dead skin.

4) Pupae:

This is the transition stage between larvae and adult flea. After approximately 7-18 days the flea larvae pupate. It takes approximately 7 – 10 days for the larvae to develop into a flea, although it may be some time before the flea emerges from its protective cocoon. They are at their most resilient as pupae, and resistant to insecticides.

The flea larvae spins a sticky, protective silken (produced by the saliva of the larvae) outer cocoon, covered with particles of debris such as dust, hair, lint etc. The pupae are found in carpet fibres, crevices etc., and are virtually undetectable.

Can I catch fleas from my cat?

A heavy infestation may lead to fleas taking the occasional blood meal from humans, but they generally prefer to live on cats. Signs you may have been bitten by a flea include itching and scratching and a small, red, papule. Humans are most often bitten around the ankles and feet.

Treat your cat:

This is a two-pronged approach. **Treating the cat** and the **environment** (your home/outdoors), both of which have to be done at the same time.

There are many products available to treat fleas on cats. Flea collar, shampoo, flea combs, spray, tablets, powders, insect growth regulators and topical treatments. The most effective products are the spot-on or oral suspension treatments, which are available from your veterinarian. It is possible for fleas to develop a resistance to some products, speak to your vet for his advice on the most effective flea control treatment.

Flea collars

There are many different types of flea collar on the market. Some are insecticide only and work by killing adult fleas on the cat. Other flea collars contain IGR's to kill the eggs and larvae.

Flea collars often only kill fleas on the cat's head and neck, but fleas further down the body survive.

Shampoos and dips

There are many different types of flea collar on the market. Some are insecticide only and work by killing adult fleas on the cat. Other flea collars contain IGR's to kill the eggs and larvae.

Flea Combs

Flea combs aren't overly effective, only removing 10 – 50% of fleas on your cat. If you wish to use this method place a small bowl of water with some detergent in it close by and drop the fleas into the bowl. This will drown the fleas. Placing a small amount of petroleum jelly onto the teeth of the comb will help the fleas stick to it.

Flea Powders

Flea powders will kill adult fleas on the cat. Powders may cause the cat's coat to dry out and also may be irritating to the cat's oral and respiratory mucosa.

Oral suspensions

Program® is given to cats via an oral suspension once a month. The product is added to the cat's food and is absorbed into the bloodstream. When a flea bites a cat treated with Program it ingests the active ingredient (lufenuron), which is passed to her eggs and prevents them from hatching. As this product only prevents eggs from hatching, an appropriate adulticide will also be needed to kill adult fleas. Seek advice from your veterinarian before using more than one product on your cat. It is also extremely important to speak to your veterinarian if you are considering treating a pregnant or nursing cat. They will be able to recommend the safest treatment for your cat.

Spot on treatments

Topical adulticide. There are several effective products on the market, which are administered via a liquid form to the cat's shoulders. These are available through your veterinarian or online pet product store. These products are very effective for killing adult fleas on your cat. The active ingredient varies from product to product. The application is generally once a month.

Cat Flea Sprays

There are some effective cat flea sprays on the market. Frontline make such a spray. Wear rubber gloves while applying the spray to your cat while ruffling the coat. Avoid contact with the eyes and mouth.

Injections

Program is a flea treatment, which is injected under the cat's skin once every six months.

Tablets

Capstar and Comfortis are administered orally once a month to treat fleas. Comfortis also treats flea allergy dermatitis. I have used this product on my own cats, one of whom had terrible FAD and it was the only product that finally worked.

When applying a flea product to a cat it is important to follow the instructions on the packet to the letter. Cats are extremely sensitive to chemicals and if you are using one than one product your cat may be exposed to too many toxins, resulting in sickness or death.

Revolution also kills worms (except tapeworm), so makes life a bit easier for pet owners, according to the Bayer site, Advantage cat flea control, also kills flea larvae in the pet's environment too.

Rotating flea products may help increase effectiveness as fleas are becoming resistant to some flea control products.

After administering flea products, closely observe your cat for adverse reactions.

Warning: Don't ever use flea products designed for other pets on your cat and ALWAYS follow the dosage chart on the back of the packet.

Natural cat flea repellents:

If you would prefer a chemical-free flea repellent, you can try the following.

- 50 ml apple cider vinegar
- 50 ml water

Mix together in a spray bottle, spray onto your hands and stroke into your cat's coat as well as on your cat's bedding and other areas your cat frequents. You can also add two drops of catnip essential oil to increase effectiveness.

Food-grade diatomaceous earth can be applied to floors, bedding and your cat's coat. Avoid the head and face as it can be irritating if inhaled.

Remove fleas by hand using a flea comb. This is a good method, especially when removing fleas from young kittens (under 6 weeks of age) who are too young for most chemical flea products. When removing fleas, flick them into a bowl of hot soapy water to drown them.

A word of caution when using natural cat flea products

Always be careful with essential oils on or around cats. Remember these oils are concentrated and many are toxic to cats even in low doses. I frequently see people advising the use of tea tree oil as a *natural* flea treatment, but this is toxic unless diluted to 0.1-1%. So avoid using, or use with extreme care and only at a safe dilution. Just because something is natural doesn't make it safe.

Garlic should also be avoided as this is toxic to cats.

Treat the environment:

Vacuum:

Flooring and carpet prior to spraying your home, paying close attention to skirting boards, under furniture and other nooks and crannies flea larvae love to hang out.

Frequent vacuuming will also remove fleas and their eggs. One useful tip is to put a flea collar in your vacuum cleaner bag. When vacuuming, pay extra attention to corners, skirting boards, under furniture and any other nooks and crannies. Also vacuum furniture, curtains etc. This is where the larvae love to hang out, eating dust and debris, so it is vital that you thoroughly vacuum. Once you have vacuumed, clean out the bag and dispose of carefully. Ensure that every time you vacuum, you empty it out the bag or canister to prevent any fleas escaping.

Use an insecticide (fogger):

To treat the house and environment you can either hire the services of a professional pest controller or buy a product from your local supermarket. Most DIY products come in the form of an aerosol "bomb". Prior to letting the bomb off you and your pets should temporarily vacate the premises. Be aware that flea bombs are toxic to other animals, so all pets (including fish) need to be removed prior to bombing.

IGR's: (insect growth regulators) disrupt the cycle of the flea. They prevent eggs from hatching, kill larvae and prevent adult fleas from reproducing. These most often come in as a bomb/spray.

A pest controller should be able to spray your house and garden for fleas. It is important to specify that you have cat(s) living in the house, so they can use a suitable spray, which is safe for pets.

Wash rugs, cat bedding etc., in the hottest possible cycle. You can also spray unwashable bedding with flea sprays such as Frontline.

Treat outdoors:

Fleas can infest your garden and outdoor buildings too, so while you are treating your cat and house, also pay attention to your garden.

Spray areas your pet tends to hang out, and if he has bedding in the garden, bring it in and wash it.

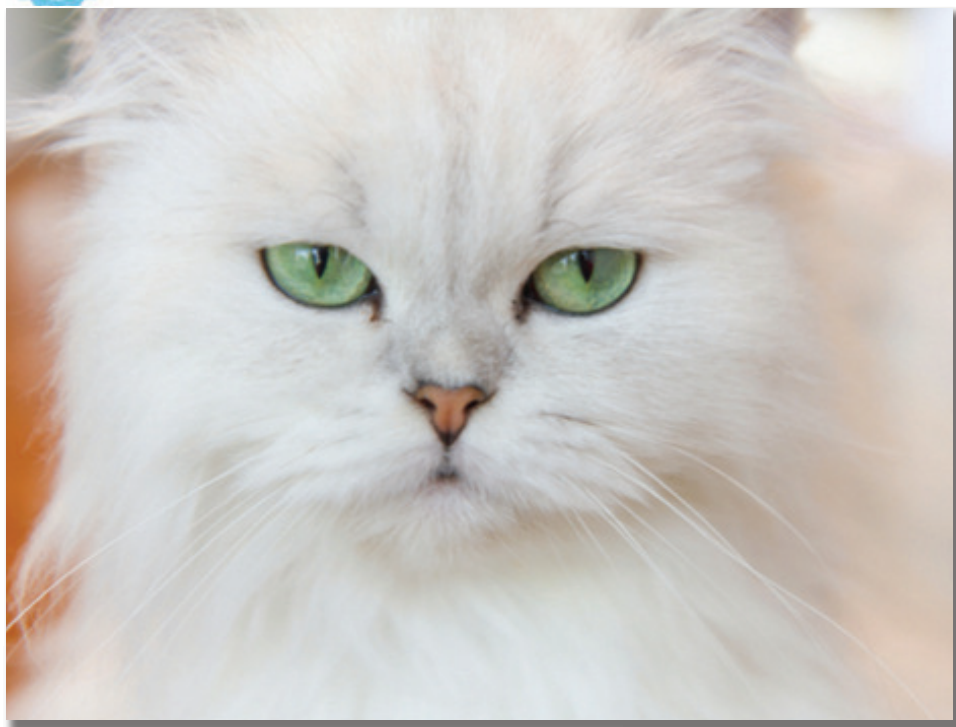
You will need flea bomb any outdoor buildings such as garages and sheds, especially if your cat hangs out there.

Keep wood piles stacked and away from your home.

Long term flea control:

Regular application of a good quality flea control on your cat is the best method of flea control. Ensure your cat's bedding is regularly washed in hot water and hung outside in the warm sun to air dry.

Lumps, Bumps, Cysts, and Growths on Cats



By Jennifer Coates, DVM

While you're petting your cat, you feel a bump that wasn't there before. What is it? Is it serious? Chances are only your veterinarian can tell you, but it helps to know what the most common types of skin lumps on cats are and some tricks you can use to tell them apart.

Abscesses

When a relatively large pocket of pus forms under the skin (or within another tissue) it is called an abscess. Abscesses are localized infections that typically develop after a wound has healed over, which prevents the pus from draining. Puncture wounds, including those that result from bites, are common causes of abscesses in cats. Cats of all ages can develop abscesses, but individuals who go outside or live in multi-cat households where fights occur are at highest risk.

Abscesses are usually painful, cause high fevers, and will sometimes rupture and release foul-smelling pus. Treatment for abscesses can include surgery to drain the pus and thoroughly clean out the affected area as well as antibiotics.

Cysts

Cysts are hollow structures that are filled with a liquid or other material. Unlike abscesses, cysts are not caused by infection, but they can become secondarily infected. Cats may develop a single skin cyst or multiple ones over a period of time, and they can occur at any time in a cat's life.

Cysts tend to be round or oval and while they may be firm, you should be able to feel a softer centre. Lancing and draining the material from within a cyst will shrink the structure and make it less evident, but with time it usually reforms. Surgery to remove a cyst is the best form of treatment.

Granulomas

Chronic infections and/or inflammation can lead to the formation of a granuloma, a solid

mass within the skin that is made out of inflammatory cells, connective tissue, and blood vessels. Cats are at particular risk for developing something called “eosinophilic granuloma complex,” which refers to three different types of skin growths, all of which can be associated with allergies, bacterial infections, and/or genetics:

An eosinophilic granuloma (also called a linear granuloma) typically develops as a long, narrow lesion running down the back of the thigh or a lump on the lower lip or chin. Sometimes the footpads are involved. The skin is usually pink or tinged yellow, raised and bumpy, and hairless.

Eosinophilic plagues typically affect the skin of the abdomen, inner thigh, throat, or around the anus. The areas are raised, pink or red, and appear “raw.” Indolent ulcers (also called rodent ulcers) affect a cat’s upper lip and sometimes the tongue. These lesions usually look like pink, eroded sores.

Eosinophilic granuloma complex usually responds well to treatment with corticosteroids (e.g., prednisolone) but cats who are severely affected may need other immunosuppressive drugs (e.g., cyclosporine or chlorambucil) or even surgery.

Tumors

Skin tumors in cats can usually be easily felt once they’ve reached a certain size. They may be either malignant (having the tendency to spread or otherwise significantly worsen) or benign (not having that tendency). Cats with tumors tend to be older, although this is not true for every type of cancer. A biopsy is almost always required to identify the type of tumor that a cat has and to plan what treatment (surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and/or palliative care) would be in the cat’s best interests.

The following are several of the more common types of tumors that might be felt in or under a cat’s skin:

Basal Cell Tumors are the most common type of skin tumor in middle-aged to older cats. Thankfully they are benign. These small, firm masses are usually found around a cat’s head and neck. Siamese, Himalayan, and Persian cats are most commonly affected. Surgery to remove a basal cell tumor should eliminate it.

Squamous Cell Carcinomas often are diagnosed around the ears, nose, and eyelids of older cats. These areas usually have thin fur and less pigment than other parts of the body and so are not well-protected against the cancer-causing effects of sun exposure. Early on, the cancer may simply look like a red patch of skin covered with a scab, but given time it will worsen. Even though squamous cell carcinoma of the skin rarely spreads to distant parts of the body, it can be deadly because it is very invasive. Treatment (e.g., surgery or radiotherapy) is most likely to be successful when it is begun early.

Mast Cell Tumors can occur alone or as multiple tumors, usually around the head and neck of cats, but sometimes they will also involve the spleen, liver, and/or bone marrow. Mast cell tumors of the skin are usually not very aggressive in cats and surgery to remove them often results in a cure. If a cat’s spleen, liver, or bone marrow is involved, the prognosis is worse.

Sebaceous adenomas look like a lot like warts. They can occur anywhere on a cat’s body, although the head is a common location. These skin tumors are benign, but if they are bothersome, they can be removed.

Fibrosarcomas are aggressive cancers. They typically don’t spread to distant parts of the body until late in the disease process, but they are very invasive at their original site. They tend to be firm and grow quickly within or under the skin. Some cats have developed fibrosarcomas at previous injection sites. Treatment usually involves some combination of surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy. Prognosis depends on the size, type, and location of the tumor and how early and aggressively it is treated.

This isn't an exhaustive list of all the lumps and bumps you might feel on your cat. If you find something new, bring it to your veterinarian's attention. Sooner is better than later, particularly if the mass is growing or if your cat seems to feel under the weather.

Did you know?

Cats step with both left legs, then both right legs when running or walking. The only other animals to do this are giraffes and camels.



Silver and Golden

Silver and Gold

Lead contact: Lyons Lab – felinegenome@missouri.edu

At least two different genes are suspected of influencing the silver and golden coat colors found in many cat breeds.

Silver (a.k.a. *Inhibitor* (I,i)) appears to reduce or eliminate the production of pheomelanin or yellow pigment in the cat's hair. Generally considered a dominant trait, one copy can cause the loss of pigment, but likely a cat with two copies of the mutation may have less "ruffusing" or "tarnishing" as well. On a tabby cat, the black banding will appear but the yellow bands are devoid of coloration. (Figure 1) Silver is seen in random bred cats and may be a very ancient mutation, pre-dating the development of breeds and the cat fancy. Many argue as to whether there may be a second – recessive type of silver mutation. I personally do not think this should be ruled out until we prove otherwise, but I think the majority of evidence (or cats) is for a single dominant mutation. There may be more than one mutation, we will see! Cats that are *non-agouti* (*aa*) and are solid, will appear as smokes, with white at the base of the hair when they have the silver mutation. Silver is a novel gene in cats, all the genes that cause silver colorations in other species have been eliminated as the cause.

Wide-band is the trait that affects the length of the band, displayed when the cat is agouti (*AA* or *Aa*). This gene seems to have extensive variation, causing many short bands or a few longer bands. The selection for longer and fewer bandings in the cats' hair is likely due

to selection by breeders and is less common in the feral cat population. Cats with extremely long bands appear as chinchilla's when the cats are silver and goldens when the cats are non-silver. (Figure 2)



Figure 1. Banding (ticking) in cat fur. Left side is my cat Figaro – a normal, wildtype, brown tabby cat with ticked / banded fur. The drawing is the coloration in her fur, alternating bands of yellow (pheomelanin) and black (eumelanin) pigment. Far right is hair that is silver and is depleted of only yellow pigment. These are the effects of only the silver gene. The Silver cat also has a mutation at the gene called *Ticked*, which removes the tabby patterns (Tabby Aby, T^a).



Figure 2. The effect of the Wide-band locus on cat hair. The *Wide-band* trait is less understood as extreme variation can be seen in the length of the banding in the cats fur. Breeders have selected for extremes, producing the chinchilla (left) and golden cats (right). Golden is the effect of only wide-band while chinchilla is the effect of wide-band and silver. I have no direct breeding evidence of wide-band, but the trait is suspected to be recessive.

How can you help??

- We need DNA samples – buccals swabs, blood or tissues. Any DNA source will be good for this project – see [DNA sampling instructions](#).
- Silver cats, especially if you think you have homozygotes.
- Wide-band cats – looking for the extremes – the chinchillas and especially goldens!
- Send pictures of the cats and pedigrees. We very often refer back to pictures.

Please do not send samples that you are not certain of the coloration, hoping you will get an

answer. We will not use these samples and we will put them aside. Research projects are not a free way to get DNA typing on your cats. Do not expect answers as we have a long way to go. Once we publish a manuscript, then if your cat got used – then we can provide the DNA type. You will get some “free” typing in the end, but do not expect answers in order to make breeding decisions – this happens all the time – sorry.

However – do you have cats with odd blotches / patches of what appear to be silver, maybe they have been called “merle”? Contact us as these cats may constitute an entirely different project!

References:

Genetics for Cat Breeders – Roy Robinson, Pergamon Press 3rd edition

Robinson’s Genetics for Cat Breeders and Veterinarians, Vella, Shelton, McGonagle, Stanglein, Butterworth-Heinemann

Funding:

The Winn Feline Foundation to Dr. Gandolfi – Miller Trust 2014 award

HOW **CATS** SEE A CHRISTMAS TREE:



CatsWA Breeders Directory 2017

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>ABYSSINIAN</p> <p><i>ABRASHKA</i> Tara Carle Tel: (08) 6191 0410 Mob: 0411 083 655 taracarle2003@yahoo.com.au</p> <p><i>JOYLINCAR</i> All Colours Carole Carroll Mob: 0403 778 233 joylincar@iinet.net.au www.joylincarsomalis.com</p> <p><i>KIMARA</i> Lucy Nikiforos Tel: (08) 9419 7473 kimara@iinet.net.au www.kimara.iinet.net.au</p> <p>AUSTRALIAN BOMBAY see MANDALAY</p> <p>BIRMAN</p> <p><i>MONALEA</i> Most Colours Monica Clark Tel: 6458 4071 monalliee_56@hotmail.com</p> <p>BRITISH SHORTHAIR</p> <p><i>BRITZOBEAUTY</i> Julie & Emily Pickens Tel: (08) 9377 4333 vegimite62@hotmail.com www.britzobeaauty.webs.com</p> <p><i>CUDDLETON</i> Pamela Lanigan www.cuddleton.com</p> | <p>BURMESE</p> <p><i>CHAROB</i> Most Colours Charmaine & Jodie Heath Tel: (08) 9394 0008 charob.burmese@live.com.au www.charobburmese.com</p> <p><i>CHERIE</i> All Colours Andrea Dey Tel: (08) 9274 0906 Mob: 0459 306 250</p> <p><i>FOXGLOVE</i> Lelania Timms Mob: 0420 618 334 lani72@live.com.au</p> <p><i>ICEBLU</i> Most Colours Stud Service David Radford Tel: (08) 9455 4740 Mob: 0423 288 704 drado@iinet.net.au</p> <p><i>MALINGBU</i> All Colours Stud Service Margaret & Richard Bush Tel: (08) 9535 3239 Mob: 0401 192 157 margaret_bush@outlook.com</p> <p><i>NATMAC</i> Natalie McNamara Mob: 0403 318 804 natmacburmese@gmail.com www.burmesenatmac.wordpress.com</p> | <p>BURMESE (cont)</p> <p><i>NICODY</i> Most Colours Diana Nixon Mob: 0417 913 803 dlnixon@bigpond.net.au</p> <p><i>RIORDAN</i> Nick Skeet Tel: (08) 9455 5656 Mob: 0423 821 303 riordanburmese@yahoo.com.au www.riordanburmese.com</p> <p><i>ROCANROLE</i> All Colours Carole Galli Tel: (08) 9455 1481 admin@roellencattery.com.au www.roellencattery.com.au</p> <p><i>THIBAWBURMESE</i> Joan McNickle Mob: 0427 552 561 joanmcnickle@hotmail.com</p> <p><i>ULTIMA</i> Brown/Blue/Choc & Lilac Stud Service Most colours available Joyce McLeavy Tel: (08) 9398 5576 Mob: 0407 427 130 joycepmcleavy@bigpond.com</p> <p>BURMILLA</p> <p><i>MESMEREYES</i> Most Colours Carole Galli Tel: (08) 9455 1481 admin@roellencattery.com.au www.roellencattery.com.au</p> |
|---|--|---|

DEVON REX

PIXIEMINX
Kylie Purcell
Mob: 0476 612 825
silverskies@hotmail.com

EXOTIC

MURDOCH (WA)
Most Colours
Ann & Norman Chandler
Tel: (08) 9337 3002

FOREIGN WHITE

ASHROSE
Stud Service
Margaret Cowell
Tel: (08) 9417 7469
Mob: 0417 967 945
margaret224@iprimus.com.au

MALINGBU
White
Stud Service
Margaret & Richard Bush
Tel: (08) 9535 3239
Mob: 0401 192 157
margaret_bush@outlook.com

RIORDAN
Nick Skeet
Tel: (08) 9455 5656
Mob: 0423 821 303
riordanburmese@yahoo.com.au
www.riordanburmese.com

MAINE COON

DIRTYPAWS
All Colours
Delaine Hall
Mob: 0406 052 322
delva@01hotmail.com
www.dirtypawsmainecoons.net

MANDALAY

RAVENCLAW
Black
Carole Galli
Tel: (08) 9455 1481
admin@roellencattery.com.au
www.roellencattery.com.au

OCICAT

FALCONBLADE
Stud Service
Yves Colliere
Text: 0417 368 168
yvesfrans46@gmail.com

SUNCHASER OCICATS
Danielle Linder & Sebastian Frost
Stud Service
Chittering, Western Australia
Mob: 0404 995 591
sunchasercats@gmail.com
www.sunchasercats.com
www.facebook.com/sunchaserocicats

ORIENTAL

ASHROSE
Stud Service
Margaret Cowell
Tel: (08) 9417 7469
Mob: 0417 967 945
margaret224@iprimus.com.au

CHICAS
Stud Service
Susan Game
Mob: 0409 082 395
ssgame@iinet.net.au
www.chicascats.iinet.net.au

PERSIAN

MURDOCH (WA)
Most Colours
Ann & Norman Chandler
Tel: (08) 9337 3002

RICHDEAN
Deanne Kestel
Mob: 0400 314 071
www.richdeanpersians.webs.com

RAGDOLL

DIAMONDDOLL
Stud Service
Brooke Reed
Tel: (08) 9390 0881
Mob: 0418 788 845
brooke@diamonddollragdolls.com
www.diamonddollragdolls.com

FUREVERAGS
Most Colours
Margaret Elford
Tel: (08) 9300 9442
Mob: 0406 270 277
margaret@fureverags.com

JAIHAYSCO RAGDOLLS
Narelle Topham
Located in Baldvis
Mob: 0419 968 606
colandrel@bigpond.com
FB – JAIHAYSCO RAGDOLLS

LOVEUFOREVER RAGDOLLS
Most Colours
Janis Thompson
Mob: 0414 563 107
loveforeverragdolls@hotmail.com
www.loveforeverragdolls.com

MEWSINGS
Most Colours & Patterns
Stud Service
Kirsty Connell
Tel: (08) 9455 1230
mewsingsragdolls@yahoo.com
www.mewsings.breedsite.com

RAGGIES
Seal/Blue/Choc & Lilac
All Patterns
Gloria & Norm Green
Tel: (08) 9574 4506
elcid651@gmail.com
www.raggdollcats.com

SINANVANYA
Blue/Seal & Choc
Michelle Harris
Mob: 0413 394 625
sinanvanya@iinet.net.au
www.sinanvanya.com

RAGDOLL (cont)

SUMMERSKYE

Susan Goodall
Mob: 0407 479 931
susanskysum1@bigpond.com

WOMBLETOWN

Sonia Dorling
Mob: 0409 103 670
soniadorling@hotmail.com

RUSSIAN

GOLASH

Mel Gould
Tel: 9394 0467
Mob: 0419 993 765
rgo69697@bigpond.net.au
www.golash-russians.com

KIMARA

Lucy Nikiforos
Tel: (08) 9419 7473
kimara@iinet.net.au
www.kimara.iinet.net.au

PYRET

Blue/Black & White
Stud Service
Betty Payne
Tel: (08) 9525 0071
pyret@bigpond.net.au

TACHALI

Maree Carle
Tel: (08) 9317 4477
Mob: 0408 925 205
tlcpets@iinet.net.au
www.tlcpets.com.au

RUSSIAN (cont)

TWILI

Amber Gould
Mob: 0423 490 122
Located in Joondalup
rgo69697@bigpond.net.au
www.golash-russians.com

SIAMESE

ASHROSE

Stud Service
Margaret Cowell
Tel: (08) 9417 7469
Mob: 0417 967 945
margaret224@iprimus.com.au

CHICAS

Most Colours
Stud Service
Susan Game
Mob: 0409 082 395
ssgame@iinet.net.au
www.chicascats.iinet.net.au

MALINGBU

Seal/Blue/Choc Solid Points & Tabby Points
Stud Service
Margaret & Richard Bush
Tel: (08) 9535 3239
Mob: 0401 192 157
margaret_bush@outlook.com

RIORDAN

Nick Skeet
Tel: (08) 9455 5656
Mob: 0423 821 303
riordanburmese@yahoo.com.au
www.riordanburmese.com

STARTRILL SIAMESE

Evelyn Kueh
startrillsiamese@yahoo.com.au
www.startrillsiamese.com

SIBERIAN

ZHIVAGO SIBERIANS

Janis Thompson
Mob: 0414 563 107
janis@zhivagosiberians.net
www.zhivagosiberians.net

SOMALI

JOYLINCAR

All Colours
Carole Carroll
Mob: 0403 778 233
joylincar@iinet.net.au
www.joylincar-somalis.com

SPHYNX

DEJANUDE

Sharon Wood
Tel: (08) 9562 7861
Mob: 0430 063 309
taylah.jackson@yahoo.co.uk
www.dejanudesphynx.webs.com





The Cats WA President and Council Members would like to take this opportunity to wish all of it's sub-committee members and Club members a very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

