



'Caring for Homeless Animals'

South Gippsland Animal Aid 'Paws Galore' Thrift Shop Inc.

EDITOR: Ian Cole

~ Summer 2022 ~

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday 10 March
7pm
Workmans Club
75 Graham St
Wonthaggi
ALL WELCOME

facebook
Keep up-to-date with the goings on of the South Gippsland Animal Aid including cats/kittens and dogs available for adoption.
www.facebook.com/SthGippyAnimalAid
animalaidsouthgippsland.org.au

South Gippsland Animal Aid 'Paws Galore' Thrift Shop Inc.
ABN 83 820 030 098
Inc. No. A0039534A
74A Watt St
Wonthaggi Vic 3995
PO Box 666
For shop inquiries only phone 5672 3948

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR DESEXING CATS/KITTENS AND DOGS.
CONDITIONS APPLY
For all animal inquiries phone **0458 157 155** or email rescue@sgaa.onmicrosoft.com



Annual Report 2020-2021

2020 and 2021 were difficult times for all of us due to the Covid-19 crisis. Nevertheless, our dedicated volunteers have kept up their good work. Our 'Paws Galore' Thrift Shop has stayed open as much as possible throughout this ordeal but there were times where reluctantly we had to close the shop for legal and safety reasons.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our members and (even non-members) for your ongoing support. Your membership fee and donations help us to continue the work we do in rehoming animals that were rescued, homeless or abandoned and in some cases had to be surrendered due to circumstances of their owners.

So how do we manage it? Well the backbone of our association are the dedicated foster carers. We have taken on four more carers this year, totalling 20 located around Gippsland and Bass Coast. These people open up their homes and hearts to the animals. Without them we could not provide this service. Our carers generously donate their time to look after our four-legged friends and do so for no payment, other than the unconditional love returned by the cats and dogs. The cats and dogs in their care are vet checked, desexed, microchipped, vaccinated, rehabilitated, fed quality pet food and rehomed as soon as a forever home becomes available. Your donation helps us finance almost all of the above.

After a disappointing loss of \$29,196 in 2019-2020, we are pleased to

announce a tidy profit in 2020-2021 of \$16,018 from a healthy turnover of \$135,531. The turnaround was due to a number of factors:

- A greater number of adoptions
- Some large cash donations
- A generous supply of donated pet food
- Less veterinary expenses
- Not having to have the shop closed for such long periods

A comprehensive financial report is available on request.

The current Committee of Management for South Gippsland Animal Aid 'Paws Galore' Thrift Shop Inc. is:
President Marion Munro
Secretary Tracey Breckon
Treasurer Paula Ingram
Ordinary Members ... John Davis
... Natalie Shaw

Throughout 2020/2021 we rehomed 335 cats/kittens and 31 dogs. At last count we had 65 kittens/cats in our care. Plus we have run (and are still running) a very successful 'Last Litter Program' where we have assisted with the desexing of around 35 cats. We continue to work with farmers in doing TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) with their cats to reduce the number of kittens born on farms.

We would also like to give a shout-out to the men and women who volunteer their time in running our Thrift Shop and to Ian Cole for monitoring the dozens of fundraising tins in outlets all around Bass Coast and Gippsland.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Jacque from Wonthaggi Pet Supplies for her monthly donations.
- PETstock Pty Ltd for supporting our fundraising efforts and also for displaying our animals for adoption at Clyde North, Pakenham and Warragul. Also thanks to Leanne and Peter Paterson from Cowes PETstock for their on going support.
- ARC (Animal Rescue Cooperative) for the generous donation of dog food.
- PetRescue, in association with Mars, for the large donation of dry cat and wet dog food and dog treats.
- Corinella Boarding Kennels.
- Ritchie's IGA Benefit Scheme.
- Bendigo Bank.
- Grantville CWA for its Annual Pet Food Drive.

An acknowledgement also to the following veterinarians businesses for their continued support:

- Cowes Veterinary Surgery.
- Poowong Veterinary Service.
- Greencross Vets (Pakenham).
- Gippsland Veterinary Group.
- Inverloch Animal Doc.



- CAT FACTS -

- While us humans have 206 bones, cats on average have 244. It ranges between 230 and 250 depending on how long a cat's tail is and how many toes the cat has.
- Adult cats have 30 teeth, while kittens have 26.
- A house cat is genetically 95.6% tiger.
- Cats can run around 48kph (30mph) but only over short distances. A house cat could beat superstar runner Usain Bolt in the 200 metre dash.
- Cats can jump five times their height.
- An adult cat's brain is approximately 5cm (2 inches) long and weighs 30g and has nearly twice the amount of neurons in their cerebral cortex as dogs.
- Males are more likely to be left pawed, while females are more likely to be right pawed - some are ambidextrous.
- A cat's tongue contains a number of backward facing hooks known as filiform papillae. These rough tongues can lick bones clean off any bits of meat.
- Cats have an extra organ that allows them to taste scents in the air.
- Each cat's nose is unique, much like human fingerprints.
- Neutered males live 62% longer than unneutered cats and spayed females live 39% longer than unsplayed females.
- Between 2002 and 2012 the average lifespan of a cat increased by a year.
- Cat whiskers are the same width as their body.
- Cats walk like camels and giraffes, both right feet then both left feet.
- Cats sleep 12-16 hours per day and spend one third of their awake hours grooming.
- Cats can dream.
- Grooming stimulates blood flow to the skin, regulates body temperature and helps them relax.
- Cats mark you as their territory by rubbing their faces and bodies against you by marking you with their scent.
- If your cat approaches you with a straight, almost vibrating tail, this means that he or she is extremely happy to see you.
- When your cat shows their belly, it is a sign of trust and a relaxed cat. This is not an invite for a belly rub, typically.
- A cat's rear end in your face is a gesture of friendship, while kneading means happiness. Draping their tail over another cat, dog or you also means friendship.
- Meowing is a behavior cats developed to communicate with humans and they can have up to 100 different vocalisations.
- A cat's purr vibrates at a frequency of 25 to 150 hertz, which is the same frequency at which muscles and bones repair themselves.
- Grimalkin is the name of a female cat, especially an older one.
- An ailurophile is a person who loves cats. Ailuro is the ancient Greek word for cat.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Paws Galore appreciates good clean items. If you have any of the following items at home that you no longer require, we would love to take them off your hands.

- ⇒ Great sellers are clothes both ladies and men's. Also shoes, bags, manchester, hats, curtains and suitcases.
- ⇒ We take porcelain, glassware, collectables and a variety of craft items.
- ⇒ Books of all sorts, records and DVDs are good sellers.
- ⇒ Small furniture items such as bookshelves, bedside tables and coffee tables are in demand.
- ⇒ Sporting gear including adult and children bikes, racquets, bats and balls, etc.
- ⇒ Of course for the animals we need blankets, towels, doonas, bedding, cages, food, toys, cat litter, leads, etc.

