

# cats'9lives



## Fostering and Rehoming Organisation

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### Cat news November 2011

Let me introduce myself...My name is Petey (and I am a girl they thought I was a boy can you believe it!) I am the oldest resident in the *cats'9lives* "Kitten Hotel" I came here as a kitten in October 2004 hopefully to be adopted but to no avail. But they all say a good thing happens to those who wait. I was meant to stay and was given the opportunity to write the latest newsletter



This is me. Petey

I am now the mother, who disciplines all the new naughty kittens but also take care of the very scared and timid kittens. I also know everything that goes on here, but I don't think that mommy Avril has got a clue. When she is not around I have to keep everything under control. I also go and eat all the nice kitten food and chose the best bed in the best sunny spot, but to keep the kittens from my personal litter tray is not easy!

I obviously hear all the good, not so good and latest news which I would like to share with you.

## **From the kitten Hotel**

Looking at our records I see that most of our kittens came to us after being dumped and left to die. Thankfully we have a panel of fosters who without hesitation take them in and give them devoted care until they can be happily homed. They come to us from all Political Parties - 3 were found dumped in a box outside a Democratic Alliance Party meeting and were appropriately called Helen, Zillie and Tony. They were all homed and from further reports are very happy. I have always known that kittens are great survivors, not more so than Phoebe. She was found badly burnt in a dumpster with her family. They had all been set on fire. She was the only survivor although badly burnt. She was taken to Onderstepoort and from there to Yvette, one of our carers. After a very painful treatment course she was lovingly nursed back to health. In spite of her horrific experience at the hands of humans she has made a full recovery except for her ears which were slightly burnt away and she is now in a very loving home.

The happy endings to these stories make our sometimes stressful times so worthwhile.

(The things we had to do to get in the "Kitten Hotel"!

The latest edition to Cats'9Lives was newly born and in freezing weather thrown in a box at a complex. She was found in time by good samaritanens who contacted us and she was taken to Hildegard who is bottle feeding her and she has found a loving home

To date (15<sup>th</sup> November) 173 kittens have been adopted from the beginning of the "kitten season" namely October. We enjoyed a well-deserved rest from little furry feet over winter. We have still a number of cattenens (9 month) they have

been sterilized. Their characters have been formed and they are used to humans and are most affectionate, loving and in need of a forever home. If you know anyone who is looking for a companion this make wonderful ones.

## FUND RAISING



### Report on Uncle Tim's Day

We were invited to participate in "Uncle Tim's Centre" Animal Welfare day at Brentwood Park on 28<sup>th</sup> August. We were expecting a fresh spring day but instead had a day of arctic freezing. Lynn, Lorraine and I were reduced to "wearing" the cat blankets that were made to sell to try and keep warm. We can recommend these blankets from personal experience to keep you snug and cozy!! In spite of the weather we sold a lot of our beautiful wares. In addition to the money we made "Uncle Tim" gives a donation to each organization participating. As it is a most characterful venue it attracts a lot of people. It was nice to touch base and meet new and old friends in the animal welfare world. We are all waiting for the onslaught of kittens from September onwards.

## Jumble Sale

The ladies also organise a jumble sale at Waterkloof Animal Hospital and they manage to raise a whopping R3000.00 so hang on to your not so good clothing, shoes, bags and linen.

They are planning another jumble sale before next winter.

## Open Day/Market

This was held at Waterkloof Animal Hospital on 12<sup>th</sup> November. We had a "White Elephant Stall" and arts and crafts made by our talented needlewomen and served delicious eats. In addition students of the Varsity College, who had chosen us for their project to raise money, sold boerewors rolls, held a raffle and had badges made with our logo. They added a most festive air to the whole proceedings and we are most grateful to Jared and his fellow students for

raising money for us. Open Day was a great social and financial success and it was good to see so many of our friends there to support us

### **A FEEL GOOD STORY**

We all remember the kittens that travelled in a shoe box from Hammanskraal to Pretoria in a bus with Tumi. This is also one of those "feel good" stories.

These kittens who grabbed a lot of attention in September 2009 were the "Tumi" kittens. The 5 newborn kittens were abandoned under a bush in Hammanskraal. Tumi who was visiting her grandmother heard about them and went to find them. She contacted us and they were brought to us and cared for until they were ready to be homed.

We contacted the owners and we got this feedback from 2 of them.



**KITTENS WHERE TUMI FOUND THEM IN HAMMANSKRAAL**



**This photo was taken when they were 6 weeks old and all of them found wonderful homes**

## TWO OF THE KITTENS ALL GROWN UP IN THEIR WONDERFUL HOMES



Jacolien Vollcschenk wrote that Gucci had a rough start. She had a bad reaction to her first inoculation and had to be rushed back to the vet and then she fell off a 4th floor balcony and broke her leg and had it in a cast for 3 months. Jacolien writes" She is doing awesome now and you can't believe that she had a broken leg. She has a best friend in the dog Bengy and is a happy cat.

Alet van der Merwe wrote

Mallory was so small he could fit in my hand. Now he is not like any other cat. For starters, he is totally fearless, unperturbed by noisy technical appliances and his craggy 12 year old great aunt, Dorabella in spite getting scratches on his nose from her.

He is the alarm clock of the family. If I am lucky I will be kissed awake. If I don't respond to this token of love, my toes will be bitten or a lampshade knocked over onto my head.

Mallory knows how to put his paw on my knee and to look me in the eye for a spoonful of yoghurt, a bit of tuna or leftover milk from my bowl of All Bran. His great aunt has also taught him to drink water out of a glass since only the lowly drink out of a bowl.

Mallory been human, he would have been a master criminal. No door, no drawer or even Tupperware lid remains closed if there is something in it that he likes or wants. He was named after George Mallory the hero of Everest and every shelf becomes a mountain and nothing is too high for him to climb.

Working late nights can sometimes be very lonely, but Mallory is always there when I arrive home. Purring he wants to play and give me showers of kisses.

I can't think there was a time when he was not part of my life. The happiness he has brought to our home is priceless  
Had and testimony to the many joys of adopting a cat. To anyone who is thinking of adopting a cat from Cats'9Lives, all I can say is do it and do it immediately.



Although we do not have the facility for housing adult cat we still manage to find homes for rescued adult cats. We also would like to thank the few friends that are willing to foster these cats until we can find a forever home for them.

### SOME PHOTOS OF ADULT CATS ADOPTED







*PLEASE ADOPT A RESCUE CAT*



Thanks to all who keep in touch by sms, photos and phone calls. We appreciate hearing news of our kittens and how happy they and their owners are. Thanks to our team of bottle feeders and fosters who do such a great job of bringing up and socializing. They take in often frightened, traumatized kittens and with their great patience and love transform them into happy friendly beings. We want to thank the committee of Engela, Avril, Mariette Lorraine Lynn, Helga and Michele who worked so hard. We have a marvelous panel of bottle feeders but need more, so if anyone could undertake this very satisfying task please contact Avril 072 391 5035. We provide all the milk, food and home the kitten. Our web page is up and running thanks to Absol who worked on it and made it as reader friendly as it is now . We get a lot of enquiries through it - it has been a great success. We thank the panel of veterinarians who care so well for our

kittens and cats and always make themselves available, particularly Waterkloof Animal Hospital who allow us to use their ground for Jumble sales and Open Day. We are most grateful to the supporters who give us monthly donations. Without them we would find it very hard to manage financially. We want to particularly thank Hills Pet Nutrition for frequent the donations of food.



These are all my friends in the "Kitten Hotel" waiting for Father Christmas (They still believe in him ha-ha,) but you and I know that our toys and goodies come from our friends and supporters.

Purrrrrrrry Greetings, from Petey and all the other hopeful kittens waiting for their forever home

**We wish all our friends a very happy Christmas and New Year filled with contentment, and good health.**

From Avril, Engela, Lynn, Mariette, Lorraine Helga and Michelle