

**cats'9lives**



**Fostering and Rehoming Organisation**

**NPO 048-500**

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Heights

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## **Our Newsletter**



**Spring is in the air and soon  
there will be kittens everywhere!**

Yes, it is that time of the year again and also time to bring you up to date with our latest news.

**KITTENS**

The **kitten'otel** has been upgraded to a 5 star luxury accommodation with new carpets, under floor heating and all new and clean scratch poles and toys. If you would like to come and visit please feel free to do so. **We are in great need of kitten milk and dry food** as we are already inundated with abandoned baby kittens. They so deserve the best start in life that we can give them.

We have had a very successful year from the start of the "new" season in June 2008 - a total of 190 kittens were adopted, bringing the total number of kittens homed from the start of Cats'9Lives 3 years ago to a magnificent total of over 1000 kittens. When one thinks of the number of kittens that could be born to one female in the summer season, our adoption package, which includes sterilization, lessens the birth of unwanted kittens often ending up dumped at the side of busy roads or abandoned in boxes in the veld adding to the feral cat numbers...

We enjoy getting positive feedback and photos of our adoptees and we love receiving these and news of our babies and their interaction with their new families. We are delighted that our kittens have taken over beds and homes - which is as it should be!!

We have a dedicated panel of veterinary firms always willing to give advice and medical treatment - Waterkloof Animal Hospital, Hatfield Bird and Animal Hospital, Glen Veterinary Clinic, Verwoerdburg Animal Clinic and our new firm Moreletarif Animal Clinic. Thank you all for caring for our kittens

We could not provide such care to our kittens without our panel of volunteers who take on the tiny abandoned ones with special needs such as bottle feeding, - Mariette, Lorraine, Peggy, Rinie, Mari, Hildegard, Helga, Yvette, Mervelien, Liezel, Elizabeth and Hilda. They open their homes and the kittens become members of their families, making them such loving companion animals.

I am so grateful to Lynn and Mariette for taking in the kittens coming into the system at this time when we are busy renovating the kitten rooms at my home. They have done so well in socializing the new kittens and homing them. We are going to distribute the kittens between a few different homes in the new season instead of centralising them at my home and they will be adopted from these homes.

## ADULTS

"cats'9lives" will be trying to help the occasional adult cat but we can obviously not do it on a full scale. We will be using volunteers to foster the cats until we can find a home for them. So if you are able and willing to help us with fostering these unfortunate cats for a short period of time please do not hesitate to contact us for further details.

Charlene is now on her own with the adult cats at the Glen Animal Clinic and is not part of "cats'9lives" anymore. We wish her all the luck with the new venture and the wonderful work she does.



## OUR OPEN DAY!

We are planning an open day on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2009 and it will be held at Waterkloof Veterinary Clinic. (Invitations to follow)



For the "white elephant" table we need good quality "bric a brac", and items we can sell as gifts as it will almost be Christmas...



Please be so kind as to put your donations in a sealed box and drop it off at Waterkloof Vet or phone Mariette 0824583873 for further details.

The "cat-meow" table will be selling CD'S and DVD"s as usual and as that turned out to be very popular. So please go and get those CD'S and DVD"S that you have not taken out of the cupboard for a number of years and donate them to us.

(Contact Engela 0834683143)

The usual lovely tea garden will also be open to treat you to cake and tea.

**Remember, this is a fund raising event and all the money goes towards the day to day caring of abandoned cats and kittens.**

## NEWS

Natashja, our wonderful web-site lady has given birth to a beautiful baby girl. Check out our web-site for the latest photos. We hope her two cats have adapted well to new addition to the household.



We also rescued a mommy with three kittens which were abandoned at Silver Lakes and are happy to announce that with the help of Lynn they were all adopted.

Vicky and Candy were quite traumatised and hide at every chance. Because they were already 3 months old, it was harder to gain their confidence. Willena gave some "expert advice" and eventually they began to realise that we had their best interests at heart. Vicky was kindly adopted by Sharadel who let us know that "it's going great, she's adorable, and we love her." Candy was kindly adopted by Lauren, a first-year veterinary student and her Mom. She just

seemed to take to Lauren from day one! Thank you for giving these two abandoned kittens such special homes.



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A Victorian Experience" - We were invited to have a table at this venue near Benoni The event was called "The Day at the Races - Uncle Tim's Charity Event for Animals" On a FREEZING 4<sup>TH</sup> July we manned a table and in spite of the bitter cold we raised R3960.00 and received a further donation from the organisers of R1250.00. A most successful fund raiser. We hope to be included in other events held by Tim and Brian at their lovely venue.

## NEWS FLASH!!!

These five small kittens were dumped in Hammanskraal by one of the residents. Tumi, a girl who was visiting her grandmother heard about it that afternoon and went looking for them. After she found them she phoned us and with a lot of advice from us and caring from her and her family they survived the night. She brought them with her to school in Pretoria the next morning where we fetched them from her. Lorraine, one of our wonderful bottle feeders is now taking care of them.

A sad story with a wonderful and happy ending.

Thank you so much Tumi for being so concerned about the kittens and saving their lives.

They are about one week old and will be ready for adoption at the end of October.



(This photo was taken by Tumi with her cell phone where they were dumped.)



**THANK YOU**

Thank you to all our regular donors. Their money is used for food, veterinary costs, litter etc. The adoption fee of R480 is paid to the vet and covers the sterilisation, inoculations and deworming. Without their kind help we wouldn't be able to care for all these unwanted kittens. Thank you to everyone who have adopted kittens. The kittens will all be sterilized and thus help prevent more unwanted kittens. We hope that they bring you great joy.

We wish to thank Giles Chippendall for his very generous donation of kitty milk and baby cat pellets so desperately needed for the bottle babies.- Hill's Pet Nutrition for including us on their allocation list for damaged cat and kitten food, Silver Lakes Social Responsibility Fund for their generous donation, Zachary le Grange-Petersen for donations of food or milk, Vet's Health Cafe (Faerie Glen) for donation of food, Vanda Buchel for her donations into our Waterkloof Animal Hospital account, Greta Niewoudt for her regular visits which give such encouragement, Katy Ackermann for her continued interest, Mrs Pretorius for her donation from her sale of second hand books at her home in Dey Street and Gerhard Pretorius for all the blankets and wigwams.

Our adoption rate would not be so high without the outstanding posters and photos by Mariette - she manages to capture the personalities of the kittens.

## GENERAL

We are often worried about a kitten being adopted into a family where there is a certain breed of dog - such as Boerbul, Rottweiler or one from the terrier family. In a recent article in Cats Life this question is dealt with. They state that although some breeds will be easier to introduce to feline companions such as Golden and Labrador Retrievers, Basset Hounds and Dachshunds, most breeds can get on well with cats if correctly introduced and trained. We impress on our new owners the importance of introducing the new kitten to the resident pets gradually and to give them time to get accustomed to the new smells. We always give our new owners guide lines which will make the introduction to their resident dogs or cats easier for all concerned.

**"Too many cats but not enough laps"**