

2018 Quarterly Issue: Vol 3 - Saving Lives Everyday

FREE

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Mews

2018
Vol.3

Mediator Feature: A Day in the life

Also In This Issue:

Real-life Catwomen | Community Cats - Who Cares | Health Bites — Toxoplasmosis | Mediator Feature | What's In My Bag | Cat Mama Shop | #EveryCatHasAStory | Get Help! | Laughter The Best Mewdicine



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Photo taken by Jenny Cheong



CWS Editor, Ei-leen with fosterer Nicole Wong at an adoption drive.

Time really flies! It really does not seem so long ago when I first joined the Cat Welfare Society team and yet it has almost been a full year. In this time, we've revamped the design as well as the contents of the Mews to bring you more heartwarming local cat stories.

As Outreach Manager of CWS, I work closely with mediators to help them share cases they handle to the broader audience. Of the myriad cases they handle, only a handful of cases are highlighted either via Mews or through social media. The hard work that CWS mediators put into their job goes largely unnoticed. Their efforts seldom applauded. Yet they continue tirelessly with their work day after day, often reaching into their own pockets to help the cats they come across through the course of their work. Frankly, I have never met a group of people more patient and giving. They give without expecting anything back in return.

In this issue of Mews, we take a peek in CWS mediator, Michelle's bag to see what she carries along with her to work. Our writer also shadows Michelle for a day to see how this iron lady juggles the demands of motherhood and mediation and learns about what exactly it takes to be a successful mediator.

And for those of you who are wondering if it is any different or if it is difficult caring for cats which are sick or have special needs, read about how Anakin Skypawker and Bobble Bun stole the hearts of their fosterers. We also talk to a community caregiver to find out how she copes when her community cats fall sick.

Lastly, this special issue of the Mews includes a Get Help page you can cut out and keep in your wallet. This page includes emergency contact numbers you can call and what you can do in various cat situations.

All of us can and should help cats in Singapore in whatever capacity we can.

Ei-leen Tan

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Cat Welfare Society is a charity that aims to promote a humane, responsible and informed society in Singapore where pet cats are taken care of responsibly and community cats are treated with kindness.

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<http://catwelfare.org>

Online Shop

<https://catwelfare.store>

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REAL-LIFE CATWOMEN



Proving that not all superheroes wear capes, these two heroic cat fosterers have chosen to open their homes and hearts to special needs kitties, helping them thrive.

Little Anakin Skypawker didn't have the best start in life.

Abandoned in a hamster cage in the rain at just one month old, the frail, tiny tabby suffered several trials – including being impounded at the AVA – before settling in a loving home with his fosterers, Nicole Tan and her husband, in October 2017.

"After Anakin was bailed out of AVA, another rescuer took him to a vet who had initially thought he was just two weeks old – that's how little he was! When he came to us, he was dirty, skinny and still shivering from the cold. We immediately set up a warm bed for him in a shoebox, and tucked him in with a towel and stuffed toy for comfort," she recalled.

However, it wasn't long before they realised that something was not quite right with baby Anakin. He was unsteady on his feet, and had pupils of different sizes. Later, as he grew older, he started having seizures as well.

During his first episode, the couple thought they were going to lose him. Luckily, their little fighter bounced back,

but it was then that they unexpectedly learnt that Anakin was blind as well. Despite seeing a feline specialist who ran multiple tests on Anakin, there appeared to be no underlying causes to his seizures.

Feeling that their five-month-old baby had gone through enough, Nicole and her husband declined to subject him to further testing.

After that, it was a matter of making sure Anakin is given his anti-seizure medication three times a day. However, when his grand mal seizures get really bad, they'd need to have diazepam enemas on hand.

Even so, Nicole said, having Anakin in their lives has been a wonderfully rewarding experience, especially watching him grow up to become the otherwise healthy, happy kitty he is today.

More importantly, their little champ has taught them much about overcoming obstacles by adapting to his circumstances perfectly and by simply being a regular cat.

She said: "Looking at Anakin, you can't even tell that he's sick. He's got big, bright and intelligent eyes, and he tears around the house at full speed without bumping into the furniture even though he can't see. He also has a sweet personality, and we've had no issues introducing him to our other three pet cats. The only thing we can't seem to do is to litter train him properly."

Sadly, the couple plan to relocate next year and have had to come to the painful decision of giving Anakin up for adoption. With his medical condition, it is unlikely that he would be able to survive the long flight and quarantine period.

The adoption process, however, hasn't been easy, admitted Nicole, and as adorable as Anakin is, people are put off by how much attention they assume he requires.

But that is a misconception she's quick to dispel.



“The assumption is that a special needs kitty is a lot of work – and they’re not wrong. But it really isn’t as much as they think. Most days, Anakin is alone at home with his brothers. Like any normal cat, he snoozes in the afternoon, and wakes up later to run around the house. He also doesn’t require a special diet, and he’s incredibly chill with taking medication through a syringe.”

Calling their time with Anakin a blessing, Nicole and her husband are grateful to have the opportunity to be his caregivers, and hope that some lucky family will soon be able to experience the same joy that he’s brought into their lives.

Next up, fellow cat-lover and president of Cat Welfare Society, Thenuga Vijakumar definitely doesn’t shy away from leading by example. She, too, got ‘adopted’ by a special needs kitty, Bobble Bun, in April 2015 and ended up sharing her home with her for three years.

At first, Thenuga noticed that her new feline friend shook her head constantly, and was extremely stressed after being rescued. It was only after doing her own research that she learnt that Bobble Bun suffers from Cerebellar Hypoplasia (CH).

Cats with CH have trouble controlling their motor skills and physical coordination. They often fall while walking, or may not even be able to walk at all.

For Bobble Bun, her head shaking caused her to be unable to eat or drink well, explained Thenuga, and she would end up flinging kibble before it even got into her mouth and shake water everywhere.

“At the start, I was very careful with her, lining the room with pillows, especially the corners, and adding extra reinforcements to the windows. She tumbled a lot when trying to climb, so everything had baby-safe corners and padding. She’s also a little incontinent, so she pees herself when she sleeps. But she only likes one spot to sleep in, so I just have to put pee pads there and she is happy.”

Thankfully, Bobble Bun’s condition is not very severe, and her balance and stability have become better as she got older. Her head shaking has also reduced – now, she only does it more when she’s stressed or concentrating on playing.

Like Nicole, Thenuga thinks that potential adopters shouldn’t close themselves off to the idea of taking home a special needs kitty, or even one with CH. While they do require more effort to help them develop a routine, once established, they’re hardly different from regular cats and have their own loveable personalities and quirks, too.

“Many people think that a CH cat is more expensive, or that they are less of a cat. That’s not true with Bobble Bun. I did change a few things around my home and made some additions, but overall, it didn’t require a lot of financial outlay. And she certainly isn’t less of a cat to me,” said Thenuga.

Bobble Bun has since found her forever home, and it’s an uplifting sign that in time, other special kitties will find theirs, too.



COMMUNITY CATS

Who Cares?

By providing care and comfort to the community cats in their local neighbourhoods, Singapore's cat feeders offer a level of support and compassion that goes above and beyond the call of duty. Providing food and care to community cats 365 days a year is a commitment that takes up a lot of time and money, and the dedication as well as importance of community caregivers cannot be overstated. Unfortunately, the work and commitment shown by these compassionate group of people often goes unseen, taking place late in the night or early in the mornings, away from the public eye.

Discovering a community cat that is injured or sick puts community caregivers into an incredibly difficult position. Already sacrificing their own time and resources every day to feed the cats, caregivers have to face the extra burden, and potential cost, of trying to rehabilitate an injured cat or treat a sick one. Such burdens cannot be taken lightly, and it is these difficult decisions that caregivers sometimes face that the members of the public don't see. Sadly, it is not always possible for caregivers, given their own limitations, to take in the injured or sick cat or to get the cat rehomed.

We spoke to Yanhee, a caregiver who told us of some of the difficulties she faced when she encountered two community cats that required specialist medical attention.

"The first cat is called Michael. He was abandoned a few years ago. I started feeding him last year along with another auntie that also feeds him. Unfortunately Michael has advanced glaucoma. We took him to the vet but the week before we were due to take him back for a follow up visit with the eye specialist, Michael disappeared. We put up missing posters in the community and asked around the neighbourhood to see if anybody had seen him. Eventually we discovered that Michael had been brought to the vet by a jogger who noticed he looked unwell.



Michael limping before surgery



We were able to get in touch with this kind jogger and the vet carried out the surgery that Michael needed to remove his infected eye. Thankfully the jogger has taken on the cost of the surgery, and I am paying for Michael's boarding costs after his discharge by the vet. He should be discharged in a couple of weeks when we'll return him back to the community."



Jimmy with glaucoma



Jimmy in boarding after surgery

“The second cat is called Jimmy, which is part of a group of cats that an elderly uncle feeds in my neighbourhood. I spoke to the Uncle when I noticed that some of the cats had not been sterilised. The uncle agreed for the cats to be sterilised and pointed out that one the cats whom he called Jimmy had an open wound and was limping badly. I knew that I wouldn’t be able to cover the cost for any surgery that Jimmy might need on my own, so I contacted two other rescuers for their advice. Thankfully they were able to help cover the majority of surgery costs whilst I managed to fundraise a few hundred dollars to contribute.

As Jimmy is an older cat, the vet suggested that the best treatment for his injury would be amputation of the infected leg. After much discussion we all agreed that it was the best course of action for him. The total cost of the treatment came to almost \$3,000. After his surgery we decided to return Jimmy back to the community. The Uncle is unable to adopt him due to his work and some other commitments, but he still feeds the community cats in the area, including Jimmy, twice a day. The Uncle says

that Jimmy seems to be very happy in the community. He’s gotten bigger and he also has a spayed calico girlfriend that he hangs out with. I’m still in touch with the Uncle and he knows that he can contact me if Jimmy ever has any problems in the future.”

Thanks to caregivers like Yanhee, who fork money out of their own pockets to not just feed but send community cats that are sick or injured to the vet for treatment, our stray cats are well cared for and can live well even if is it on the streets. We hope that more people like the kind runner who brought Michael to the vet can step up to help and contribute to the cats in our community, because they are after all, an integral part of our urban landscape.

HEALTH BITES:

Toxoplasmosis



Dr Steven Teo, Gynaecologist



Dr Enoka, Bandularatne, Veterinarian at Woodgrove Veterinary Services

“It is when the parasite is passed in the cat’s faeces that the opportunity for transmission becomes possible.”

Recently, a fosterer had a cat returned to her after it was initially rehomed. The reason? After adopting the cat, the adopter found out that she was pregnant, and was strongly advised by her gynaecologist to surrender the cat to avoid any risk of contracting Toxoplasmosis, a parasitic infection transmitted by infected cats. But is such a drastic precaution really necessary? For this issue of Mews, we decided to speak to a veterinarian, Dr. Enoka Bandularatne, and a gynaecologist, Dr. Steven Teo, to ascertain the facts and myths about Toxoplasmosis.

Toxoplasmosis is an infectious disease caused by the one-celled parasitic organism *Toxoplasma gondii*, a parasite found worldwide. Most people who are infected only exhibit mild “flu-like” symptoms, if any symptoms at all. But for pregnant women (or people who have compromised immune systems) the effects of the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite can be devastating. “Infections during pregnancy may cause miscarriage, still births or a Toxoplasma-infected child,” says Dr. Bandularatne. “This is because pregnant mothers who get toxoplasmosis will transmit the parasite across the placenta, to the developing foetus,” adds Dr. Teo.

It is true that Toxoplasmosis is a zoonotic disease, which means that it is an infectious disease that can be spread between animals and people. As Dr. Bandularatne explains, “Cats are the primary host for *Toxoplasma*. They become infected when they eat infected rodents, birds or other small animals. It is when the parasite is passed in the cat’s faeces that the opportunity for transmission becomes possible.”

But Dr. Bandularatne is quick to add a caveat: that the primary mode of exposure to Toxoplasmosis in humans is actually through the ingestion of infected raw or undercooked meat. Dr. Teo also agrees, citing that “contaminated water, contaminated meat that are undercooked (e.g. pork, lamb, venison) and other food tainted by the parasite from contaminated meat (by sharing knives, cutting boards and utensils) can result in infection.” This is also why many obstetricians and gynaecologists advise the mothers-to-be under their care to avoid eating raw meats and to wash and cook all their food thoroughly, including vegetables.

So do expectant mothers have to give up their beloved felines? The answer lies in good hygiene practices, responsible pet ownership and common sense.

“(A female cat owner) can continue to keep her cat during pregnancy, provided she keeps the cat indoors (reducing the chance of the cat catching toxoplasmosis itself), gets someone else to clear the litter daily (parasites are infectious only after 1-5 days after being shed in the faeces) and feed the cat only canned or dried food or pre-frozen raw meat,” Dr. Teo advises. He also offers an option to female cat owners who intend to conceive – they may want to consider getting themselves tested for previous exposure to *Toxoplasma gondii* before pregnancy. “A positive test will indicate that (the mother) is at low risk of transmitting the infection to the future baby. A negative test means she is susceptible to the infection during pregnancy, hence she should take extra precautions,” he explains.

Dr. Bandaluratne wholeheartedly agrees that good hygiene practices and responsible pet ownership play a big part in keeping Toxoplasmosis at bay. Washing your hands thoroughly after clearing the litter box (wearing disposable gloves is another option!) and keeping kitty strictly indoors will ensure that both you and your cat are kept healthy. “If the person is not immune-compromised and is otherwise healthy, and appropriate hygiene measures are instituted, risks of acquiring Toxoplasmosis is minimal to none,” she says frankly. “In cases like these, a pet cat need not be surrendered.”

Notes:

Dr. Enoke Bandaluratne (BVSc, MSc, PhD, MRCVS, DACLAM) is a senior veterinary surgeon at Woodgrove Veterinary Services with over 15 years of experience in clinical and research veterinary medicine. She read her Ph.D. in Veterinary Medicine from the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, and she is a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine as well as a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, United Kingdom. Woodgrove Veterinary Services is located at 30 Woodlands Avenue 1, #02-06, The Woodgrove, Singapore (739065).

Dr. Steven Teo (MBBS MRCOG(UK) MMed(O&G)) is an obstetrician & gynaecologist at STO+G Laparoscopy & Fertility Practice. He graduated from National University of Singapore and went on to train in Obstetrics and Gynaecology with the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (United Kingdom). He attained the specialist degree of Master of Medicine (O&G) from Singapore and became a Member of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (United Kingdom). As a specialist in KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Dr Teo had previously received various awards for exemplary performance in public service. STO+G Laparoscopy & Fertility Practice is located at Thomson Medical Centre, 339 Thomson Road, #04-06A, Singapore (307677).

“responsible pet ownership play a big part in keeping Toxoplasmosis at bay. Washing your hands thoroughly after clearing the litter box (wearing disposable gloves is another option!) and keeping kitty strictly indoors will ensure that both you and your cat are kept healthy.”



Photo credit: www.sunmedico.com



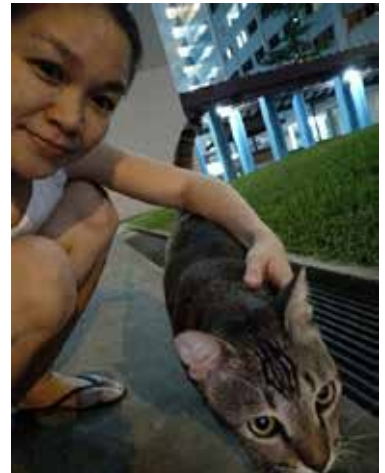
Photo credit: www.catsier.com

MEDIATOR FEATURE

A Day In The Life



Michelle with her 2 daughters



Michelle with a community cat

Meet Michelle Siau - daughter, wife, mother, Cat Welfare Society (CWS) mediator and cat lover. Even with 2 young kids in tow, this spunky lady does not let her hectic lifestyle get in the way of helping cats in Singapore. Although she holds many challenging roles and juggles many responsibilities, Michelle is cheerful and positive, brimming with enthusiasm and life.

Not many people know, but Michelle has been a part time mediator with CWS since 2010. It is only earlier this year that she made the leap of faith to become a full time mediator with CWS, so she could devote herself completely to bettering the lives of cats in Singapore.

Michelle's day begins at around 7am when she wakes up and prepares her 2 daughters, aged 1.5 and 3 years old for school. After sending them to the childcare centre, Michelle's next daily routine is to feed the community cats in her neighbourhood before she starts her work day. She has been doing this 365 days per year for the past 14 years.

While most of us work in a cushy, air-conditioned office, sitting in front of our laptops, Michelle's working hours are usually spent outside in the often unrelenting heat,

travelling from one HDB estate to the next to deal with cat-related feedback. A typical day sees her travelling to between 5-7 locations, having discussions with feedback-providers, conducting joint inspections with AVA as well as installing sonic repellents for flat owners having trouble with cats roaming on upper floors. CWS mediators are constantly on their phones, constantly on the go. The messages, emails and calls received incessant. Work at times extends past regular office hours and weekends, especially when Michelle needs to attend meetings with MPs, attend RC events or give educational talks.

With no hired help at home, Michelle's day does not end when she knocks off work. At 7pm, the dutiful mother picks her children up and tries to spend some quality time with them before they go to bed at 10pm. After that, she heads back out to feed the community cats once more before heading home to continue with household chores. There is always an inane amount of washing and cleaning to do with the kids around. Sleeping at around 1am daily, Michelle has an average of 6 hours of sleep a day. However, as parents with young children would know, it is almost impossible to have a night of uninterrupted sleep.

Michelle says that she possess some inherent qualities that



Michelle giving talks



have helped her in this journey. These traits make her well-suited for the challenging role she has taken on.

"I think my determination, being articulate in talking to residents and cat owners and never-give-up attitude has helped me to overcome problems I have faced," she shares candidly.

After a day of following Michelle around, it is clear this is not a woman who eschews hard work. Her love for cats and passion for what she does has driven her through the years. It is a path less travelled, yet an immensely meaningful and rewarding one.



Michelle installing sonic repellent



WHAT'S IN MY BAG

Essentials Every Mediator Needs

Mediators face all kinds of cat-related disputes on the ground. It is a challenging yet adventure-filled job. Apart from resolving disputes, mediators also promote responsible feeding and help ensure cats in the neighbourhoods are sterilised. They are the unsung heroes who, in the course of their work, save lives every day. So what does it take to be a good mediator? Here are some essential qualities a mediator should possess and the necessary items that he or she would carry around.

1. Quick witted

Mediators have to be streetwise and think fast on their feet. They are tough as they face all kinds of difficult situations yet are able to retain their composure and react quickly.

2. Patience is imperative.

Mediation often takes time and involves working with various people so a lot of patience is required especially

when dealing with recalcitrant feeders, irresponsible cat owners or angry feedback providers.

3. Rapport

Mediators need to be able to build rapport so that they can connect with a network of people – vets, fosterer, rescuers, caregivers, authorities etc. These connections often prove useful in cases of emergency. In addition, they help mediators keep abreast of situations on the ground when the mediator is not around.

4. Sonic repellents

Portable and battery-operated, the sonic repellent that uses high-frequency sound waves to repel small animals like cats and rodents, is a mediator's most handy tool. This is often used as an interim measure to deter roaming cats from entering a specific area.



CAT MAMA SHOP

5 Things You Have To Buy For Your Cat



\$55

Pyramid Cat Bed

Cats love nothing better than to hide away and catnap. This dual use padded bed which is handmade in Thailand, is perfect for that afternoon snooze. It can be laid out flat for use or folded into a little hidey pyramid when your kitty needs some private time.



\$55

CWS X KAFBO Tipped Ear Scratcher

Don't want your cat to scratch your furniture? Give it something else to scratch! The stylish CWS X KAFBO Tipped Ear Scratcher is sturdy and durable, made of a strong corrugated board to withstand your feline's vigorous play attacks. Get these soon before they run completely out of stock!



\$85

Cat Tree with Spring Top

If your cat is like a monkey, this cat tree with a spring top will be better suited for it because it is more flexible and can withstand jumping antics. If the pole goes a little crooked from all the jumping you can just pull down on the spring top and re-adjust it.

Refer to dimensions on <https://catwelfare.store/>



\$12

Tomlyn's Nutritional Supplement Gel

Cats do well with additional supplements to ensure they are getting all the nutrients they need to stay healthy. Tomlyn Felovite II Nutritional Gel Cat & Kitten Supplement is a high-quality daily vitamin and mineral supplement to meet cats' and kittens' special nutritional needs. Its tasty fish flavor makes it an excellent choice for choosy cats.



\$14

Sabun Happy Kitty Catnip Spray

Use Happy Kitty Catnip Spray on your cat's toys and scratchers to help boost play and engagement! Made of an alcohol-free concentrated formula containing pure catnip essential oil, the spray is safe for use on cats' fur to help repels fleas and mosquitoes.

#EVERYCATHASASTORY

Cats are the real victims whenever there is human conflict pertaining to cats. Every cat that is fortunate enough to be rescued has a heartrending story behind it.

Zeno



The kind people at a Chinese temple let my mama give birth there and that's where my siblings and I grew up. But one day, mama didn't come home to us. Maybe she wanted her own life back. I tried to make friends with other cats in the area but it wasn't always easy. One time, I got into a bad fight with another boy – I don't know what I did to make him so mad! Luckily, a caregiver brought me to see the doctor. She's a really nice lady – she says I'm a sweet boy and always tells me I'm handsome despite my small scar! I'm 2 years old now and I hope to find a permanent family that I can call my own.

If you can give Zeno a home, please contact Dayne at 9149-6638.

Lulu Mae



I don't like remembering it, but I actually had a home once. I don't know what I did wrong but one day I found myself in a strange environment, alone, with a packet of food next to me. It broke my heart to know that my family didn't want me anymore and I cried and cried until a kind lady picked me up and told me it was all going to be okay. Now that I'm with my foster mama, I feel good about life again. I love playing and I love to make mama smile when I make funny faces or give her my signature head butt! My biggest dream is to go to a loving family with children to play with (I have so much energy!) and I hope it will happen soon...

If you can give Lulu Mae a home, please contact Sandra at 9640-6628.

Collin (aka Collar Boy)



If you've ever put your arm in the wrong hole of a T-shirt and gotten stuck – well, that was me. Except in my case it was a collar, and I couldn't get it off. I don't know how long I was stuck with the collar around my neck and left shoulder, but it really started to hurt after some time. I was too scared to approach anyone for help, but eventually some people came to get me and brought me to the doctor who cut it off. I know they were helping me, but I'm still so afraid and anxious that I just want to hide in a corner and pretend I'm not here... Don't worry, I promise I don't claw or bite anyone. I just don't want to be hurt again... Will you help me?

If you can give Collin a home, please contact Shelby at 8100-7084.



Ranger



I got sick but my family said they didn't have money to bring me to the vet, so I just got worse and worse. In the end, I was in so much pain but they left me all by myself in a taped-up box at a void deck. I was devastated. It was when caregivers came to find me that I started to ask for help. When they gave me a shower for my skin infection, I almost felt like weeping with relief! Thanks to my loving foster mama, my ear is now totally recovered (it looks a bit like a cauliflower now... mama says it's cute!) though my skin infection will take more time to heal. I love to be around people and cheek rubs are my favourite thing in the world! I hope I can someday find a family who will be with me through thick and thin, and who will never, ever abandon me like that again.

If you can give Ranger a home, please contact Weiqi at 9669-5620.

Mizzi



My siblings and I used to live on the streets when we were little until kind rescuers took us home. I had a really itchy and painful eye that I took medication (yuck!) for, and although my eye is still clouded now, it's totally healed and I can see very well. In fact, I'll prove it to you by running around the house at lightning speed! I love hanging around other cats (maybe because I miss my siblings sometimes) and I get along well with dogs too. Because I had trouble with my eye when I was younger, I'm a bit uncertain about hands and I don't really like being touched. You can touch me when I'm dozing on my favourite hammock though – my foster mama says it'll come with me to my forever home!

If you can give Mizzi a home, please contact Simone at 9364-9423.

Harriet



I'm only 4 months old so my memory isn't so good, but the last thing I remember was falling... and then a lot of pain. ☹ When I woke up, the kind humans around me said that I had fallen from a great height. I felt very weak and cold, but told myself that I have to be strong and get better! Or maybe it was the nurses who whispered that to me... Now that I'm with my foster mom, life is good and I'm very happy! My foster mom says that I really like my food (come on, who doesn't?) and that I'm a happy and healthy girl. I don't mind being around other cats and I like playing by myself or sitting with my favourite humans and telling them all about my day. I feel very lucky that the bad things are behind me now. I hope someday soon I can meet a family who will never let me fall again.

If you can give Harriet a home, please contact Jenn at 9689-0460.

GET HELP!

Cut This Out And Place It In Your Wallet



If you've ever wondered what to do in the case of a feline emergency, we're here to help! This page can be cut out and kept in your wallet for easy reference. Below are important numbers and instructions on what to do should you come across a cat in need. Give one to a friend too!

Emergency Numbers

AVA: 1800-476-1600,

SPCA: 6287-5355 ext 9.

I saw an injured/sick cat: You are its best hope.

1. No one will get there faster than the person who is already there.
2. Put the cat in a secure box and bring it to a vet.

I saw an unsterilised cat: Time for TNR.

1. If it has an untipped ear, it could be someone's roaming cat. Bring the cat to a vet and have them check for a microchip.
2. If there's no microchip, sterilise the cat & tip its ear – we have a list of vets on our website.
3. Put the sterilised cat back in its community once it has recovered from surgery.

I saw kittens: Mum's the word.

1. Avoid separating the kittens from their mum. Nursing kittens need their mum's milk to survive.
2. Avoid touching the kittens – mum cat may abandon the litter if they have an unfamiliar scent on them.
3. It is common for the mother to leave her kittens for up to 3 hours to hunt. Check back periodically to see if the mother cat has returned – if the kittens appear very distressed, then consider taking the kittens in.
4. If you rescue the kittens, bring them to a vet who can do a check-up and advise you further.
5. Please do not feed kittens cow's milk.
6. If possible, wait until the mother and kittens are older before rescuing the whole brood. Engage a professional trapper if necessary.
7. Send the mother cat for sterilisation as soon as the kittens are weaned.

I witnessed abuse: Evidence is key.

1. Take photos or videos of the perpetrator or take note of as much details of the abuse as you can e.g. exact location, mode of abuse, description of perpetrator.
2. Take photos of the cat where it lays and note the location.
3. If the cat is injured, bring it to the vet immediately. Tell the vet that you suspect that the animal has been abused and that you would like a written report sent to AVA. You can also call SPCA to pick the cat up for diagnosis and treatment at their clinic.
4. If the cat is dead, take photos and detailed notes of the scene. Send the body to SPCA who can do an autopsy. The faster you send the body in, the more details can be collected.
5. Report to the AVA, Police and SPCA.
6. Get a case number and the officer's name when you make a report. Only a witness can make a report.

I need help trapping a cat: Call a friend.

Petwagon	Professional Cat	Professional Cat
Tel: 9841 0307	Trapper	Trapper
(Belle)	Tel: 9489 7626	Tel: 9695 6931
Email: petwagon.sg@gmail.com	(Vincent)	(Richard)
	Email: once_a_stray@yahoo.com.sg	Email: richardngym@yahoo.com

I am unable to bring the cat home: Seek a temporary reprieve.

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Lane 1	Farmway 2	80 (Plot LCK 135)
(inside Globe	Email: enquiries@	Lim Chu Kang
Eximport Pte Ltd)	muttsnmittens.	Lane 1
Tel: 97958995	com	(inside Globe Ex-
(Sia Ping)	Website: www.	import Pte Ltd)
Email:	muttsnmittens.	Email: admin@
kittycarehaven@	com	petboardingcen-
gmail.com		tre.com.sg
Website: www.		Website: pet-
kittycarehaven.		boardingcentre.
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LAUGHTER THE BEST MEWDICINE

The Best Cat Memes

You don't need to be a cat-lover to appreciate cat memes. Here are some of the best ones we've sourced online, guaranteed to brighten up your day!

Spread the happy. Take a funny picture of your cat, add a punny tagline and share it with us at mews@catwelfare.org so we can compile the best ones and share it.



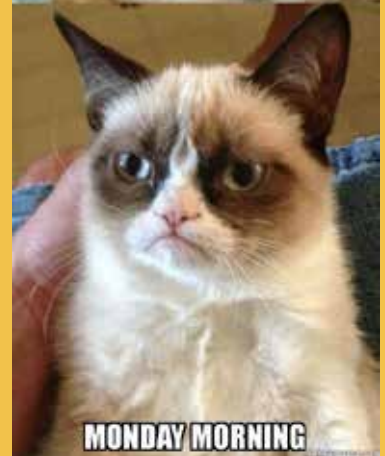
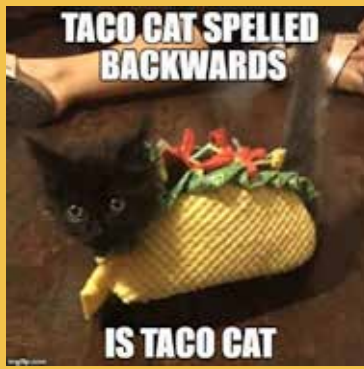
Credit: <http://weknowmemes.com/2012/05/i-am-now-an-airplane/>



Credit: Grumpy Cat/Facebook



Credit: catsall



Credit: cutecat2017





Credit: Blazepress

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AIXIA is derived from 'ai', the Japanese word for 'love', and 'xia' from 'shiawase', which translates to the word 'happiness'. Together, **AIXIA** means To Love is Happiness. Close attention is paid to the ingredients of our products, ensuring the happiness of both humans and the household animals that they love.

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#SAVINGLIVESEVERYDAY



"The greatest reward is seeing Lola happy in her new home and knowing that I saved her from an uncertain life on the streets."

- Mews Editor, Ei-leen on her first fostering experience.

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