

AUGUST 2017 EDITION of

CATCALL MAGAZINE



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



May 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 volunteers 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 , Margaret Bush

Titles and Office Judy Kluczniak 0403 524 172

Renewal of Memberships due 1 November 2017.

Governing Council passed a rule at the meeting on 13 February 2017 that "Members living in the same household must belong to only one registering body/ association". This decision was ratified in the meeting held on 30 March 2017 and becomes a bylaw for Cats WA. Members will be notified of this decision by email and in Cat Call. The breeders; Code of Conduct has also been updated.

The reasons for this decision were

- When kittens and cats are bred, and sold by members of two associations from the same household Cats WA cannot be responsible for the conditions
- CatsWA is expected to be responsible for monitoring our registered breeders
- Any complaint would be almost impossible to investigate, especially when both breeders are breeding the same breeds with the same cats

Not all registering bodies are as strict as CatsWA and may allow activities (such as export or sale through agents), which would reflect badly on CatsWA and the membership.

Nominations for Governing Council

**There are three vacancies for Governing Council this year.
Applications Close 23 October 2017**

Application form available on the website on the Members page.

The Governing Council meets once a month on the third Monday at 7.30pm. There are eight members on the Council who fulfill the responsibilities overseeing the running of the association. Members of the Council also assist in the running of most of the CatsWA shows.

We need energetic people with new ideas and some time to put into CatsWA. You must be a financial member of CatsWA to apply. If more than three applications are received there will be a postal vote election in November.

The applicant's details and resume's will be published in the November Cat Call.

More information can be obtained by calling any of the current members on Governing Council or the office on a Wednesday.

Registrar Position **Expression of Interest**

Do you have some free time (emphasis on 'free') and an interest in colour and pattern genetics?

CatsWA needs an extra person to be trained to use the pedigree database who is willing to spend some time at the Office entering pedigrees onto the system and registering kittens and cats.

You need to

- Understand the need for confidentiality
- Able to learn and apply knowledge of colour and pattern inheritance
- Ability to learn or know how to use the Breeders Assistant database
 - Have workable knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Have approx. 5 hours a week available to volunteer

Please contact Carole Galli on 0407 852 012 or Carole@ roellencattery.com.au for more information.

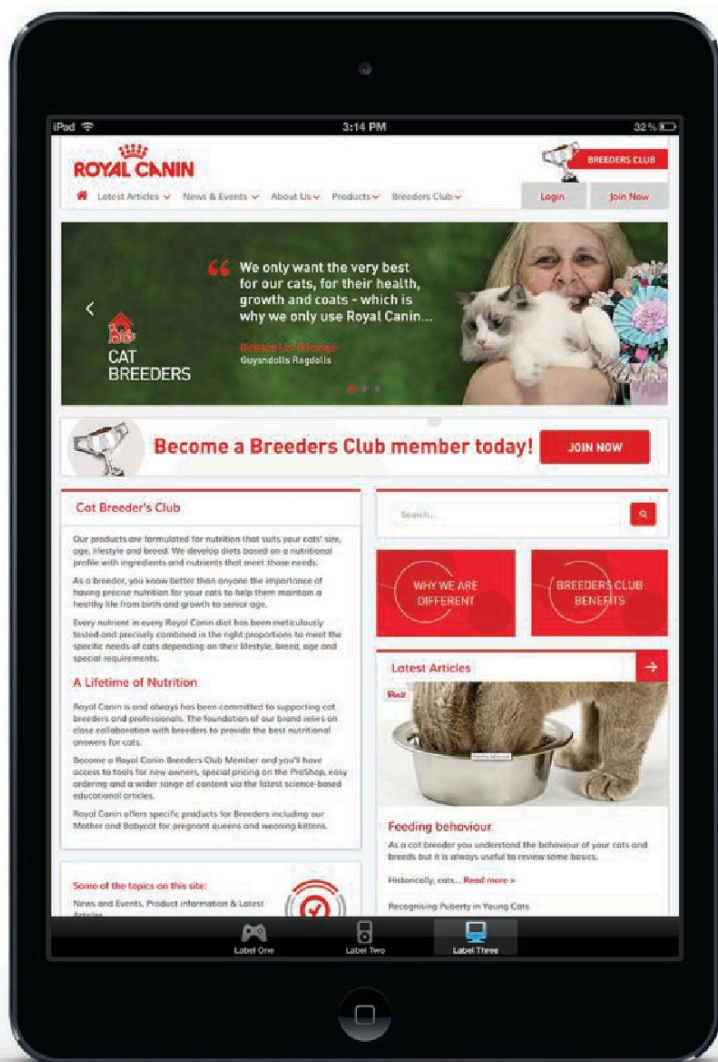
Send your application to Secretary Cats WA at catswa@iinet.net.au for consideration by Governing Council

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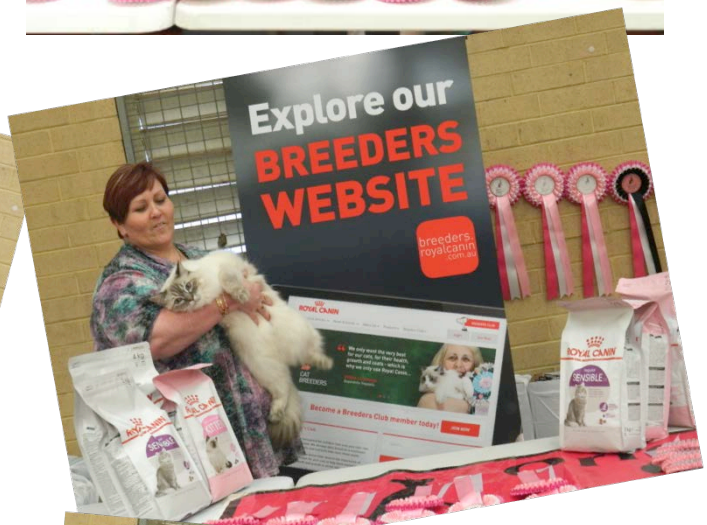
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CatsWA JUDGES

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

10 September 2017	BSH Show
23-30 September 2017	Perth Royal Show – Cat Championships & Other Events
23 October 2017	CatsWA/WA Cat Club show—Judy Lewis QFA, Lesley Morgan CAT, Hazel Rossiter CatsNSW
02 December 2017	Osborne Park Agricultural Show
25 February 2018	CatsWA
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
27 August 2018	OSCC
21 September 2018	British
Sep/Oct	Royal Show
21 October 2018	CatsWA
03 December 2018	Osborne Park Show

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>	
Cat registered with another body in WA	\$10
Cat registered outside of WA but within Australia	\$25
Cat registered outside of Australia	\$50

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.

<u>Advertising Rates</u>	Page Size	Per Issue	4 Issues
<i>Members</i>			
	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

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	Lucy Nikiforos (08) 9419 7473
Secretary	Maree Carle 0408 925 205
Treasurer	Michelle Harris 0413 394 625
Councillors	Janis Thompson, Judy Kluczniak, Susan Goodall, 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	LUCY NIKIFOROS (08) 9419 7473 kimara@iinet.net.au	GROUP 2 & 3
CAROLE GALLI (08) 9455 1481 admin@roellencattery.com.au	GROUP 2 & 3	BETTY PAYNE (09) 9525 0071 pyret@bigpond.net.au	ALL BREEDS
SUSAN GAME 0409 082 395 ssgame@iinet.net.au	ALL BREEDS	LEE-ANNE PITMAN-PRYDE 0423 115 533 kinabalu15@virginbroadband.com.au	ALL BREEDS
KIRSTY CONNELL (08) 9455 1230 mewsingsragdolls.yahoo.com	GROUP 1	NICK SKEET 0423 821303 riordanburmese@yahoo.com.au	GROUP 3

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.

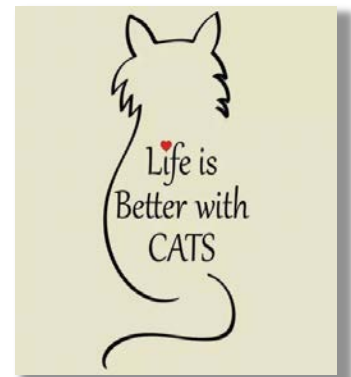
Members wishing to become judges are welcome to contact Judge Training Conveners Susan Game or Betty Payne where they will be given full support and encouragement.

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.

Welcome to our New Members

Brittany Harvey
Vanessa Cuthbert
Susan Lewis
Danielle Linder
Sebastian Kai Frost
Evelyn Kueh



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Meow A Genetic Concert for Cats by Kerry Fowler ...

is new book for cat breeders, owners, judges and veterinarians who are curious about the genetic makeup, DNA testing and diversity of pedigree cat breeds.

Peek inside, and find chapters, tables and a glossary describing what is scientifically known about the genes responsible for the multitude of different coat colours and patterns, hair lengths and compositions, eye colours and structural features that are seen in cats. Enjoy images of a rare russet Burmese kitten whose coat colour dramatically changes during development.

Be challenged by theories about genes such as dilute modifier, O gene, silver inhibitor, wideband and solving the origin of the Ragdoll cat mystery. Understand how to interpret DNA test results for coat colour, pattern and length; what to do when DNA test results do not make sense; the pros and cons of outcrossing cat breeds; the potential effect of diet and environment on gene activity; the quality control role of cat judges and limitations of breed standards.

'Meow' has been hailed as 'MeWow'. This reference book was launched in June 2017 and has been eagerly embraced by 'thrilled' cat fanciers in Australia, Denmark, New Zealand, The Netherlands, UK and US. The author, Dr Kerry Fowler has combined her scientific training in genetics and experience judging all cat breeds in Australia and New Zealand to 'have made a lot of people happy with this wonderful book' including those who have been 'over the moon to receive it'.

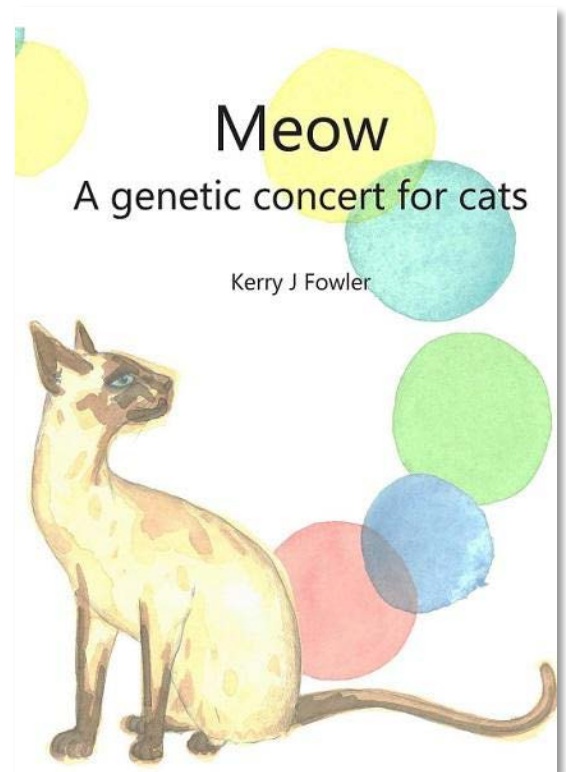
Meow A Genetic Concert for Cats

AU\$30 plus AU\$7.60 for Express Post with tracking number for postal addresses within Australia

Book enquiries

janet.kez@hotmail.com

03 9397 2529





SEXING YOUR KITTEN.

You've got a new kitten? Congratulations! Is it a girl or a boy? Are you sure?

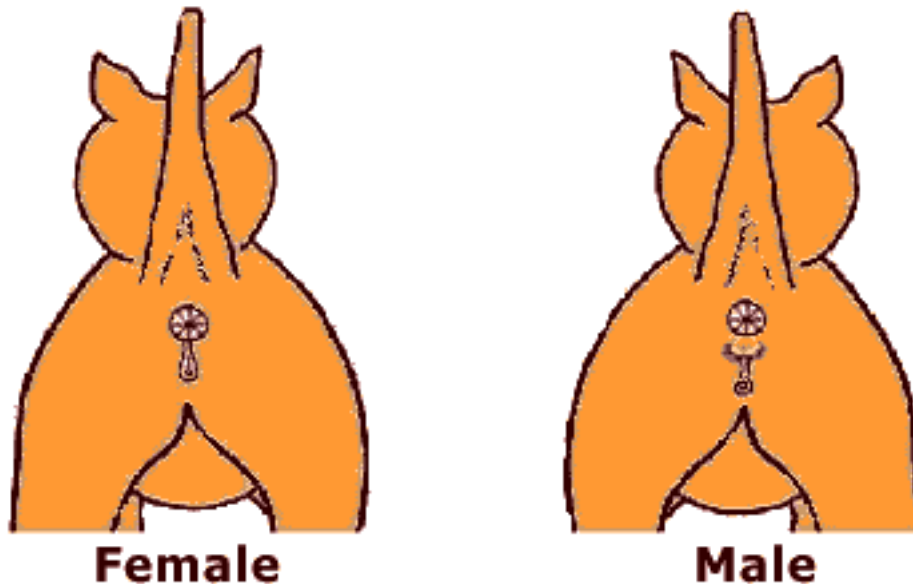
Stories of the feline "Max" who turns out to be a "Maxine" abound. The reason is simple. Determining the sex (or "sexing" as it is often called) of a kitten isn't as easy as you might think. And once a sex has been assigned, it may not be rechecked as the kitten matures. Let's take a look at the best way for pet parents to determine, or confirm, the sex of their kittens.

Older Kittens

If your cat is 8 weeks of age or older, the procedure is fairly straightforward. Pick a time when your cat is most likely to be calm—after a meal is a good bet. Sit on a chair and lightly hold your cat on your lap however he or she feels most comfortable. Gently lift the tail and take a look at your cat's rear end. Focus on two things:

1. The distance between the *anus* and the genital opening.
2. The shape of the genital opening.

Here's a diagram to help.



Notice that the distance between the anus and the opening to the penis in males is bigger in comparison to the distance between the anus and the opening to the *vulva* in females. Also, the penile opening looks like a circle while the vulvar opening is more of a line.

Here are two features **NOT** to use when sexing a kitten. The penis itself is not normally visible in male cats and can be very hard to feel, especially in young kittens. And while the testicles should, in theory, be palpable within the *scrotum* (lying in that space between the anus and penile opening), they may be too small to identify. Also, many kittens are neutered at a very young age these days. Therefore, a lack of testicles doesn't necessarily mean your kitten is female.

Breeders Corner

Top Five Mistakes Made by New Breeders

- Acquiring too many cats too quickly from different breeders,
- Not researching pedigrees to ensure there is a diverse gene pool to work with,
- Not isolating new cats and testing for common diseases,
- Not asking for DNA testing **BEFORE** committing to purchase a cat, and
- Mating too many girls at the same time and allowing kittens from separate litters to mix

Top Tips for New Breeders

- **Get a Mentor before you start**

A mentor is someone who has experience breeding, preferably the same breed, who can guide your selection of foundation cats and advise on cat husbandry. It is far easier to plan than to try to solve problems. It can be devastating emotionally and financially to resolve sickness in your cattery, especially kittens who are very susceptible to viruses.

- **Research the Cat Act 2011 and check for local laws in your area.**

All cats must be registered and micro-chipped with your local council and you must apply for a Breeders Permit before you start.

- **House cats separately**

All cats carry viruses and bacteria. They will pass these on to other cats they come into contact with. Breeding cats will also pass these onto their kittens. Cats also become stressed when overcrowded and this affects their immune system which = sickness. Keep cats either separately or in STABLE groups of no more than three.

- **Build your cattery before you get the cats**

Breeding cats cannot live in your house long term. Boys especially must have suitable accommodation where they will not cause problems due to smell and noise. Consider how your neighbours will be affected. Complaints from neighbours will involve the Local Council Rangers and Planning.

- **Clean, Clean, Clean**

Bleach or F10 and detergent will be your best friends. Most diseases are passed on through litter boxes that are not kept clean. Floors and sleeping boxes must also be cleaned regularly. Cats hate to be dirty and will develop bad habits if stressed.

- **Did I mention that you need a Mentor?**



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 joylincaar@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>
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Yves Colliere
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FALPS (FELINE AUTO-IMMUNE LYMPHOPROLIFERATIVE SYNDROME) IN BRITISH SHORTHAIK CATS & OUTCROSSED BREEDS (MANX, SCOTTISH FOLD & SELKIRK REX)

WHAT IS FALPS?

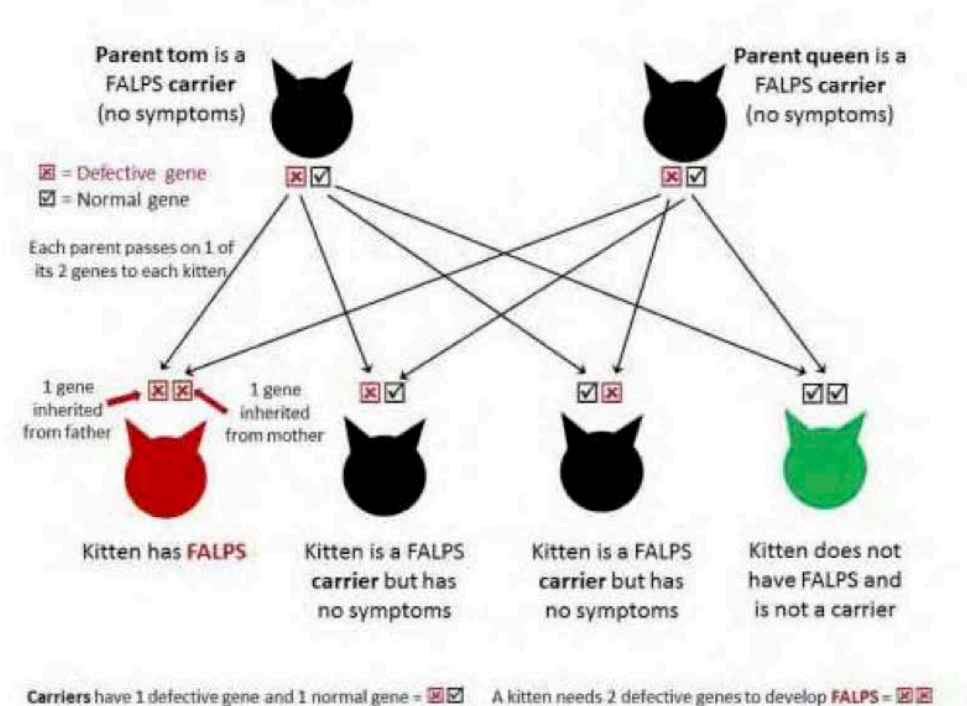
Feline ALPS (FALPS) is an unusual disease first seen in multiple related British shorthair (BSH) kittens in Australia in the 1990s and in New Zealand from 2008.¹ Kittens affected by FALPS are normal at birth but start to show signs of tiredness, reduced growth, anaemia and large lymph nodes (important in the immune system) in the first 2-3 months of life. The disease usually progresses quickly, currently has no effective treatment, and affected kittens often die or require euthanasia shortly after diagnosis. The disease is sometimes misdiagnosed as an unusual form of lymphoma (a type of cancer).

WHAT CAUSES FALPS?

We have recently confirmed that FALPS is an inherited disease due to a defect in one of the genes controlling the proliferation of lymphocytes (a type of white blood cell).² Disease inheritance is recessive – which means that a kitten must inherit 2 copies of the defective gene (1 from each parent) to develop FALPS. Kittens inheriting only 1 copy of the defective gene appear healthy and do not develop FALPS – but will be carriers of FALPS and so can pass the defective gene on to their kittens.

HOW CAN 2 HEALTHY CATS PRODUCE FALPS-AFFECTED KITTENS?

Cats, which are carriers of the defective FALPS gene appear healthy, so owners or breeders don't usually know they are carriers. However, when 2 carrier cats mate together, that mating is likely to produce some kittens, which develop FALPS as well as some kittens, which are carriers. For example, in a mating between 2 carrier cats (see diagram below), 25% of kittens would be expected to develop FALPS, 50% of kittens would be expected to be FALPS carriers (but would themselves appear healthy), and 25% of kittens would be expected to be healthy non-carriers of the disease - although the exact numbers seen in each litter will vary. So, any mating between 2 FALPS carrier cats has a risk of producing both sick (FALPS-affected) and carrier kittens.



HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF MY CAT OR KITTEN IS A FALPS CARRIER?

Any cat, which has been the parent of a FALPS-affected kitten, should be assumed to be a FALPS carrier. However, a cat that has not previously produced FALPS-affected kittens is not necessarily a non-carrier. The best way to reliably identify whether cat is a FALPS carrier is have the cat genetically tested – which we can do at Massey University in New Zealand using DNA from cheek swab samples. Owners and breeders can easily collect and send these samples themselves. The current cost of testing is \$50 + GST per sample.

Please contact us if you think you have had had kittens with FALPS, would like to discuss FALPS testing or be sent a testing kit, or would like more information about the disease:

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WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CAT IS A FALPS CARRIER?

Cats identified as FALPS carriers should be de-sexed and not used for breeding.

Alternatively, if desexing all carrier cats is not immediately feasible (e.g. in a cattery with a small number of breeding cats), carriers should only be mated to known (i.e. tested) non- carriers, and all kittens from the mating should be tested for FALPS. Kittens tested as non- carriers should then be used for future matings in preference to carriers, which should be de-sexed.

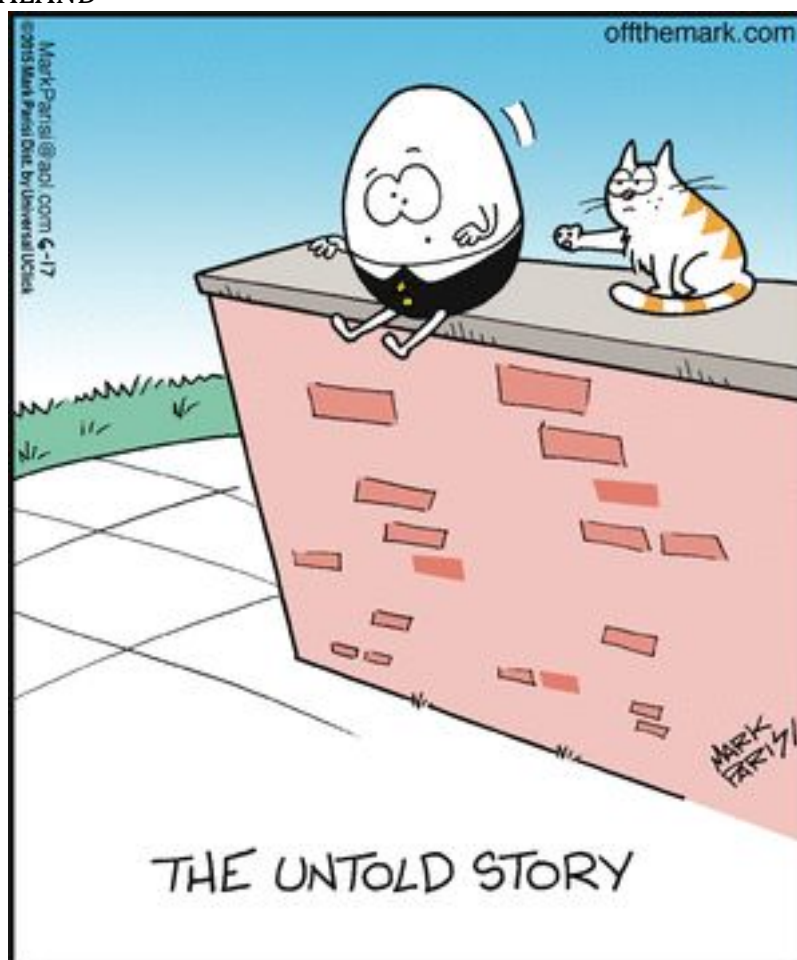
As carriers do not seem to be affected by the disease themselves, they are fine as pets provided they are de-sexed.

REFERENCES

1. Aberdein, D.; Munday, J. S.; Fairley, R. A.; Vernau, W.; Thompson, K. G., A Novel and Likely Inherited Lymphoproliferative Disease in British Shorthair Kittens. *Vet Pathol* **2015**, *52* (6), 1176-82.
2. Aberdein, D.; Munday, J. S.; Gandolfi, B.; Dittmer, K. E.; Malik, R.; Garrick, D. J.; Lyons, L. A.; Lives, C., A FAS- ligand variant associated with autoimmune lymphoproliferative syndrome in cats. *Mamm Genome* **2016**.

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Cat Flu

Cat flu is a common disease caused by either of two viruses; feline herpesvirus or feline calicivirus and sometimes feline chlamydia.

What are the signs?

The signs differ slightly between the two viruses. Generally, both can cause sneezing, nasal discharge, loss of appetite, fever and depression. Herpesvirus may also cause severe conjunctivitis and/or eye ulcers, which can be very painful. Calicivirus may cause ulcers in the mouth, with drooling of saliva. Occasionally, calicivirus causes lameness and fevers in young kittens.

In very young, old, immuno-suppressed and unvaccinated cats, flu may become life threatening (especially if secondary bacterial infections set in). Herpesvirus can cause permanent severe eye damage in kittens that have not yet opened their eyes.

How is cat flu diagnosed?

Typically, cat flu is diagnosed based on the clinical signs, however there are tests to detect the viruses available from specialised laboratories.

How is cat flu treated?

The routine flu vaccinations help minimize the chances of contracting the viruses and will help reduce the severity of signs if it is contracted. Although most cats recover from cat flu, it may take several weeks for the signs to abate (particularly with herpesvirus infections). The virus may stay in their system for life and re-infections are common.

There are no drugs that can specifically kill the viruses, thus treatment is usually aimed at alleviating symptoms until the cat recovers on its own. Antibiotics are generally given to treat secondary bacterial infections and fluids may need to be given intravenously or under the skin to combat dehydration. Nursing care will include the cleaning of secretions around the nose and eyes with moist cotton wool.

As cats with flu are often reluctant to eat, appetite stimulants and the provision of warmed, palatable foods may be required. If the cat stops eating altogether, placement of a feeding tube may be necessary. Infected cats need to be isolated to prevent the spread of the infection to other cats in the hospital.

Recovered cats may develop long-term nasal problems because of damage caused by the viral infection. This may require intermittent courses of antibiotics for the remainder of the cat's life.

How do I prevent my cat from catching cat flu?

The risk of developing cat flu can be reduced by regular vaccination. Unfortunately vaccination will not always prevent infection but may lessen the severity of the disease. Generally cats are most at risk of catching flu if they are in contact with other cats, for example, in a breeding cattery or boarding situation.

Cats may also become infected if they are exposed to the viruses on contaminated food bowls and other equipment. Infected cats shed a lot of virus particles into the environment via their saliva or nasal secretions and these may remain alive for up to a week in the environment.

Unfortunately cats that recover may become temporary or permanent virus carriers. This means that they may shed virus into the environment, even if they have no disease signs. Carrier cats are most likely to shed during bouts of illness, stress and sometimes boarding.

Can I get flu from my cat?

No. Both the flu viruses are specific to cats



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"I found these hidden downstairs.
Is there anything else I should know?"



LYKOI ORIGINS

Where did this unusual looking cat come from? While there are people that like to think some crazy scientist was splicing genes from wolves and cats in some hidden facility somewhere, Lykoi origins are slightly less exciting than that.

There have been reports of this mutation occurring in feral cat populations over the last 20 years, but it wasn't until a Mrs. Thomas was first presented with a litter containing these cats as a natural sphynx mutation that they were looked at as a possible new breed. These cats were then handed on to Dr. Johnny Gobble and his wife Brittney as Mrs Thomas was unable to offer the time or resources for the testing required to learn more about these cats.

Extensive testing was then performed by Dr Johnny Gobble, including DNA testing by Dr Leslie Lyons and skin analysis, and through these tests it was discovered that these cats are not genetically related to sphynx or devon cats, but are a true naturally occurring genetic mutation.

Great care was taken to prove that the hair pattern was not caused by any know disease or skin condition, but is owing to the fact that some hair follicles lacked all the necessary components required to create hair, which is why Lykoi lack an undercoat. They also found that the follicles that were able to produce hair lacked the proper balance of these components to maintain the hair, causing the Lykoi to molt, and become almost hairless from time to time.

Since the discovery of these original Lykoi, there have been some unrelated litters pop up in feral populations in Texas, Missouri and South Carolina, and after health and skin testing, they have been added

to the breeding program to help broaden the gene pool.

Dr Gobble and his wife has been working extensively on having the Lykoi recognised as a breed that can be shown and registered worldwide, and as of 2014 the Lykoi were passed, by unanimous vote by the TICA board, to preliminary new breed status, allowing these incredible cats to be entered on the show bench in TICA cat shows. The focus is now on increasing the number of healthy Lykoi, with the aim of reaching full championship status by 2016!

Lykoi Facts

1. The Lykoi breed was started in Tennessee by Dr. and Mrs. Gobble
2. The Lykoi was established in TICA cat registry in 2011
3. All foundation Lykoi have been tested for cat diseases, skin disorders, echocardiograms for heart health, DNA testing, Thyroid testing, infectious disease testing, blood type testing and organ panel testing.
4. Lykoi are not Hypoallergenic
5. Lykoi shed hair, and can go almost bald from time to time
6. We are always on the lookout for naturally occurring Lykoi in feral and stray populations to help us learn more about them and where possible broaden the gene pool
7. As of 2015 there are only 32 show standard Lykoi in the world and 22 non-standard colored Lykoi.
8. The Lykoi breed is based on second chances with most Lykoi and black domestics in breeding programs having come from shelters or feral/stray populations!
9. The name "Lykoi" roughly translates to wolf cat in Greek!





That's the end of this edition of Catcall. We hope you enjoyed it and that you look forward to the next issue. If you have any articles for consideration in the next issue please forward them to the CatsWA office or the Governing Council. Finally, thank-you to all those who have contributed to this edition.