



cat
welfare
society

Annual Report

for the year ended 31 dec 2007



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ABOUT THE CAT WELFARE SOCIETY

The Cat Welfare Society was registered under the Societies Act on 23rd October 1999. It was set up by a group of people concerned about the welfare of a growing number of cats living on the streets of Singapore.

The Cat Welfare Society believes that animals are sentient beings whose lives deserve our protection and consideration. Our mission is to:

- advocate sterilisation as opposed to eradication as a means of controlling the community cat population
- promote tolerance, kindness and respect towards cats and other living creatures
- raise awareness about the plight of Singapore's community cats in order to stop abuse, abandonment and neglect of cats
- provide for the well-being of cats who are sick, injured or otherwise in need
- promote responsible pet ownership and responsible management of community cats
- cultivate better understanding and appreciation of cats, and
- foster better cooperation between caregivers, management councils and government authorities

The Society works closely with other organisations and individuals who care for the many community cats on our streets. Through our community cat management, education, adoption and rescue programmes, we hope to enhance the lives of these cats so that there will eventually be no more killing, abuse and suffering associated with life on the streets. We also organise and participate in exhibitions and events to raise awareness of the plight of our community cats.

The Society is run almost entirely by volunteers and does not have an office or other premises due to a lack of resources. The Society does not receive any regular funding. All the money needed for our work comes from members' subscriptions and donations, sale of Society merchandise, as well as contributions received from friends, supporters and the public. As our overheads and administrative costs are still kept at a minimum, most funds we raise go towards helping the cats.

More information about the Society and our work can be found at www.catwelfare.org. The Society can be contacted by email at info@catwelfare.org or by post at Orchard PO Box 65, Singapore 912303. Our sterilisation mailbox number is 7000-CATSNIP.

2007 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	:	Michelle Lee
Vice-President	:	Wee Liang Tong
Treasurer	:	Marcus Lee
Secretary	:	Jacin Chan
Committee Member	:	Rebecca Ho
Committee Member	:	Dawn Kua
Committee Member	:	Jacquelyn Seetoh
Committee Member	:	Corbie Kiernan
Committee Member	:	Josephine Teo
Committee Member	:	Sarah Ismail

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

In 2007, the Society continued to focus efforts on promoting Trap-Neuter-Return-Manage (TNRM) as the more effective alternative to managing the stray cat population. This message was communicated and consistently reinforced to various stakeholders, from members of the public, caregivers, HDB Town Councils officers to Members of Parliament and Ministers.

Our caregivers continue to be indispensable to any progress we make towards our mission. We would like to express our appreciation for their belief in the cause and the concomitant time and effort that they invest in sterilising community cats. The Society strives to provide support to caregivers in the following ways: providing them with the know-how by conducting TNRM workshops, providing them with traps, getting subsidised sterilisation rates for them at participating vet clinics, providing partial sponsorship for sterilisation costs, and speaking on their behalf to Town Councils in initiating TNRM programmes. In 2007, in recognition of caregivers' efforts and to provide further incentive to sterilise, we raised our sponsorship of sterilisation to \$20 per cat and \$60 for the 5th cat sterilised.

We conducted our 2nd annual Spay Day event and outdid our efforts in the previous year with a 23% increase in the number of cats sterilised. A total of 160 cats were sterilised, with the participation of 20 vet clinics that kindly offered us subsidised rates, and with the help of tireless volunteers who saw to the logistics of the entire operation.

A number of significant changes occurred in 2007 in the composition of the committee and staff in our employment. Rebecca Ho first joined the society as a committee member and subsequently moved on to work for the Society on a part-time basis, assisting Dawn Kua, in the day-to-day operations of the Society. Much of the success of our Spay Days both in 2006 and 2007 can be attributed to Rebecca, who, despite having experienced the stresses of organising Spay Day 2006, took on the task fearlessly again in 2007. Due to study and other commitments, Rebecca had to give up her position with us. Jacin Chan also stepped down from the committee because of increasing demands of other commitments. She was *Secretary* in the committee and was also the point-person for exhibitions and events. She single-handedly managed the logistics behind every exhibition we have participated in, from recruiting volunteers, managing stocks of merchandise and brochures, to record-keeping. Her keen organisational skills will surely be missed. Dell Chan, our resident expert for adoption issues, also stepped down from her role as adoptions volunteer. This is after four tireless years of managing fosters, potential adopters and being instrumental in the rehoming of more than a thousand cats during her tenure. Finally, Corbie Kiernan and Sarah Ismail joined us slipstream, replacing Mr. ST Soh and Evelyn Toh as committee members. Corbie took a keen interest in community cat issues in Singapore, despite her fairly recent relocation to Singapore. Unfortunately, Corbie had to return to her home country before the year was over, but not before contributing in significant ways to the Society's work.

Perhaps the most significant change that occurred in 2007 and one that has caused much sadness and also anxiety among those familiar with the Society, is the departure of Dawn Kua as our only full-time staff and committee member. Dawn has been with the Society for nine years — as a volunteer for three years and as the Director of Operations for the latter six years. Dawn has been, to the Society, much more than her job title suggests. To many caregivers, she was *Cat Welfare Society*, someone they could reliably turn to for every matter community cat-related. She was passionate about the cause, was a wealth of information about TNRM and cats in general, and was articulate in propounding the arguments for sterilisation. Much of what the Society has achieved owes to these qualities of hers. She left big shoes to fill, leaving many to question the continued existence of the Society.

Admittedly, there is much uncertainty surrounding the future of the Society, but there is also much to be optimistic about. A number of people have stepped forward to offer their assistance and among them are ones who are willing to play a bigger role in furthering the Society's cause by becoming committee members. The enthusiasm of these new members will no doubt rejuvenate the Society and bring about needed changes. At this critical juncture, we hope to have the continued support of our members, so that the Society may continue to advocate the humane management of community cats in our midst.

Michael
Liang
Janice
Hon

Dawn
Jo
Josephine

AGENDA FOR 9th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting

To confirm and adopt minutes of the 8th Annual General Meeting held on 28th March 2007.

2. Annual Report of the Committee

To receive and adopt the Annual Report for the year 2007.

3. Audited Accounts

To receive and adopt the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December 2007.

4. To amend Article 6.4 of the Constitution

To amend Article 6.4 of the Constitution “A one-time payment of \$250.00 shall be payable by Ordinary Life Members” so that it reads “A one-time payment of \$300 shall be payable by Ordinary Life Members”.

5. Any Other Business

To consider any other business as may be transacted at an Annual General Meeting of which notice has been given in writing to the Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE 8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On : 28th March 2007 (Wednesday)
At : 6:30 pm
Venue : The Imagination Room
National Library
100 Victoria Street
Singapore 188064

As there was no quorum, the meeting began at 7:00 pm after screening a short Alley Cat Allies video clip. President Michelle introduced the committee members.

1. Agenda

1.1 To Confirm and Adopt the Minutes of the 7th Annual General Meeting held on 30th March 2006

The President asked if there were any clarifications required before confirming and adopting the Report.

Proposer : Dawn Kua
Seconder : Jacquelyn Seetoh

1.2 Focus of Cat Welfare Society and future plans

The President said the Society focused on sterilisation last year. The Spay Day was organised by Rebecca Ho and Dawn Kua and a total of 133 cats were sterilised at 20 vet clinics with the help of 25 volunteers.

This year, the Society is considering the idea of mini Spay Days to be implemented at every town council. 50 free sterilisation slots could be provided over a month and posters to encourage sterilisation of cats and residents to keep their home cats indoor would be put up. The Society hopes to get the town councils' support and help in facilitating the Spay Day. The details would be worked out and announced later.

Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) met with Ministry of National Development (MND)'s Minister of State and informed the Society that MND is supportive of AVA's proposed sterilisation programme and some funds have been set aside. AVA is currently working on the details and would update the Society.

The Society is continuing with the efforts to step up the promotion of Trap-Neuter-Release-Manage (TNRM) programme by organising 2 public TNRM workshops and other ad-hoc ones this year. A TNRM workshop was recently held on 4 March 2007 (Sunday) at the Imagination Room of the National Library. Last year, the Society organised about 8 TNRM workshops and an amount of almost \$8,000 was spent on sterilisation. The Society also helped caregivers to book 1,532 subsidised slots.

The Society has written to Housing Development Board (HDB) a few times and

recently via an email on 21 November 2006. However, there has been no response from HDB on the email. In previous replies, HDB had made a stand that the housing policy on cats would not be changed due to the fact that they feel the majority of residents do not agree with the keeping of cats in HDB flats.

Mdm Chen Jun Wei (#C0636) asked whether the Society would continue to write to HDB. Director of Operations Dawn Kua replied that the Society and any member of the public can feedback to HDB that many Singaporeans would like to keep cats in the flats. The President said that more people need to speak up.

The President mentioned that the adoption efforts have been scaled back due to the focus on sterilisation. For adoption drives at exhibitions and events, photos and write-ups of cats were put on display instead of bringing in live cats, which became stressed by the experience. The adoption of cats through the Society's website has been doing well with about 30 cats being adopted every month.

The President announced that Committee Member Rebecca Ho has been a part-time employee of the Society since March 2007. This move is to cope with the increased workload of the Society and also to help relieve Dawn, previously the only staff of the Society.

1.3 To receive and adopt the Annual Report for the year 2006

Proposer : Josephine Teo
Secunder : Ivan Ong

1.4 To receive and adopt the audited accounts for the year ending 31st December 2006

The President asked if there were any questions before the adoption of the accounts.

Proposer : Jacquelyn Seetoh
Secunder : Wee Liang Tong

1.5 To amend Article 6.4 of the Constitution

The President said that the Society would like to change the cost of the Life Membership from \$250 to \$300 since the last AGM. Since there was no quorum, the Constitution could not be changed.

2.0 Any other Business

- The President would like to make a few announcements.
- Firstly, the "Save Lives, Sterilise" ad on top of taxis will continue.
- The Society would be starting efforts to promote the sterilisation message to religious groups like the temples and mosques by requesting for posters on sterilisation to be put on their premises as cats have been found there.
- The Society would also target educating the public on responsible cat ownership in housing estates and responsible feeding. House cats running outside the flats and

- littering from uncleared cat food are becoming a problem.
- Mr ST Soh has requested to step down from the Committee and Ms Corbie Kiernan would be joining the Committee.
 - The President invited the Committee Members to talk about their portfolio.
 - Jacin Chan who helps to manage exhibitions at events such as cat shows and AVA roadshow hopes to increase public awareness on the Society's work besides raising funds from merchandise sales.
 - Rebecca Ho helps with the sterilisation slots and organisation of spay days. She also traps cats in her estate to send them to the clinics for sterilisation.
 - The President who is in charge of merchandise has come up with new postcards using photos of community cats taken by Marcus Lee and David Ngiam. She is also exploring other channels for merchandise sales such as eBay and InQBox at Far East Plaza and looking for volunteers to help with merchandise design.
 - Director of Operations Dawn Kua has been doing mediation and public awareness work and conducting both public and private TNRM workshops. Last year, there were a total of 41 mediation cases from HDB estates, condominiums and private estates. The Society will continue with the effort and be the liaison with town councils to work on the complaints.
 - Jacquelyn Seetoh has been working on the Society's newsletters and handling corporate sponsorship. Through the letters she sent out to private companies, the Society has received \$5,000 from the Lee Foundation. She will continue to write to companies. The President commented that it is not easy for animal welfare groups to get sponsorship, as it is not part of Singapore's culture.
 - Marcus Lee deals with the IT needs of the Society such as the website and email. The Society will be changing to a new web host soon as previously, the server crashed and the committee members have been experiencing high level of spam emails.
 - Mdm Chen asked whether the Society still goes to school to give educational talks. She has heard from a friend that Pioneer Secondary School has helped an injured cat.
 - Dawn Kua replied that the Society has been giving talks to schools when requested. Pioneer Secondary School has raised funds of \$1,200 for the cat's operation and the Society has also helped with \$300. The Principal, teachers and students has been supportive. The Society has written to Ministry of Education (MOE) about the school's good example. Mdm Chen has also called MOE to praise the school.
 - Corinna Dieu (#D0142) asked whether the school has adopted the cat. Dawn said the school has done that and even welcomed the cat after the operation with a sleeping basket.

3.0 Closing of Meeting

Meeting called to a close at 8.15pm.

OUR ACTIVITIES

Sterilisation and TNRM

The Society engages in the following activities to promote TNRM among prospective caregivers and to support the TNRM efforts of existing caregivers.

1. Conduct TNRM workshops

TNRM workshops were conducted to teach caregivers the basics of TNRM and how to operate a cat trap. These workshops were held at the National Library on *4th March 2007, 1st April 2007, 16th June 2007, 9th September 2007* and *15th December 2007*, and were open to members of the public. Dawn Kua and Rebecca Ho organised the workshops and provided the necessary demonstrations.

2. Provide cat traps on loan

The Society loans out traps to caregivers solely for the purpose of carrying out TNRM. Loan of these traps require a deposit of \$75 that is refundable when the trap is returned. This is to cover our costs should the trap be lost, stolen or damaged.

3. Liaise with vet clinics to obtain subsidised rates for sterilisation

To date, there are 17 vet clinics that work with us to provide subsidised sterilisation rates to caregivers. Booking of these sterilisation slots have to be done through the Society by emailing catsnip@catwelfare.org or by leaving a voicemail at 7000-CATSNIP.

We would like to thank volunteers Nan Nan Tint and Wiggie Lim for so competently handling bookings by email and voicemail, respectively.

4. Provide partial reimbursement of sterilisation costs

In 2006, the Society increased reimbursement of sterilisation costs per cat to \$10 and on top of that, provided full reimbursement for every 5th cat sterilised. In June 2007, we increased the reimbursement rate to \$15 per cat and full reimbursement of up to \$50 for every 5th cat sterilised. In September, on reviewing the financial status of the Society, the committee decided that we were in a position to provide a further increase. The current reimbursement rate is \$20 per cat and full reimbursement of up to \$60 for every 5th cat sterilised.

The reimbursement policy will be adjusted from time-to-time to reflect the financial health of the Society. We are happy to provide these reimbursements provided caregivers (1) mail in original vet clinic receipts within one month of incurring the expense, and (2) fill up and return the necessary claim form. The claim form can be obtained from the Society through email or snail mail.

Spay Day 2007

Spurred by the success of our first island-wide Spay Day event in 2006, we organised a second Spay Day on 26th October, 2007. A total of 160 cats were sterilised, an increase from the 133 sterilised in the previous year.

Caregivers submitted their requests for slots weeks prior to the event and had to trap and fast their community cats the night before the big day. The cats were then brought to one of four drop-off points at Ang Mo Kio, Boon Lay, Tampines and Bedok bright and early the following morning. Committee members Jacin Chan, Rebecca Ho, Corbie Kiernan, Dawn Kua and Michelle Lee were stationed at each of these drop-off points as coordinators and along with volunteers, ensured that all cats were checked in and that all cages were ID tagged and secured. The cats were then sent on their way to one of 20 participating vet clinics. In the evening of the same day, these cats were taken to the same drop-off points where they were returned to their caregivers.

We are extremely grateful to the following vet clinics for so kindly agreeing to be part of the event:

1. Allpets & Aqualife Vets
2. AMK Veterinary Surgery
3. Animal Practice
4. Animal Recovery Centre East
5. Animal Recovery Veterinary Centre
6. Asia Veterinary Care
7. Clinic For Pets
8. Edmond Tan Veterinary Surgery
9. Four Paws Pet Centre
10. Mount Pleasant Animal Clinic (East)
11. Mount Pleasant Animal Clinic (North)
12. Mount Pleasant Animal Clinic (Springside)
13. Mount Pleasant Animal Hospital
14. Namly Animal Clinic
15. P.A.W. (People Animal Wellness) Veterinary Centre
16. Pet Clinic
17. The Joyous Vet
18. The Veterinary Clinic (Vivo City)
19. The Veterinary Clinic HV
20. Vet Practice

We would also like to thank the following volunteers for taking time out to help out at the event: Li Tin, Jerome, Jereme, June, Liana, Mdm Soon, Elizabeth, Ivan, Alice, Nancy, Dell, Lyva, Lina, and Chee Keong. And last but not least, we would like to extend a big thank you to Rebecca Ho for being the person-in-charge of Spay Day for the second year running, as well as to Nan Nan Tint and Wiggie for helping out with the planning of the event.

On 23rd November, we held a tea session at a cafe called *Food for Thought* to express our gratitude to the many volunteers and vets who helped out at Spay Day. It was also a good opportunity for the volunteers to get to know each other. We also thanked the vet clinics that participated in the effort with deliveries of some Breadtalk treats.

Education and Public Awareness

1. Responsible feeding brochure

Given the incidence of irresponsible feeding leading to complaints by HDB residents and potentially to the trapping and killing of cats, the Society thought it important to educate feeders on the do's and don'ts of responsible feeding. To this end, we put out brochures on the topic in English, Chinese and Malay. These brochures are available at exhibitions, talks and TNRM workshops.



2. Factsheets

Residents often have trouble articulating the arguments for running a TNRM programme or are unsure of the best approach to take when initiating TNRM programmes with their Town Councils. Dawn, therefore, came up with a factsheet detailing such things as important points to be communicated as well as how to prepare for a meeting with Town Council. The factsheet is available on request by writing to info@catwelfare.org.

3. Talks

The Society gives talks on the need for sterilisation, how TNRM programmes work and what the Society does to promote TNRM as an effective means of controlling the community cat population. These talks are done on invitation and anyone wishing to have us give a talk can write info@catwelfare.org.

The following is a list of talks that took place in 2007.

Awareness Place, Bras Basah, 4th January 2007

By : Dawn Kua
Topic : What the Cat Welfare Society does and Dawn's decision to work with the Society

Bukit Purmei RC, 21st January 2007

By : Dawn Kua
Topic : Community cats and TNRM

Woodlands Library, organised by National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre, 27th January 2007

By : Rebecca Ho, Michelle Lee
Topic : Volunteering with the Cat Welfare Society

Singapore Management University, 9th July 2007

By : Michelle Lee
Topic : Volunteerism and the Cat Welfare Society

Pelangi Pride Centre, 14th April 2007

By : Michelle Lee
Topic : TNRM and the work of Cat Welfare Society

4. Exhibitions

The Society participated in a number of exhibitions in 2007, to raise awareness for our cause as well as to raise funds through the sale of merchandise. The following is a sampling of the exhibitions we were at:

Cats of the World Photo Exhibition, 31st July 2007

This photo exhibition was put together by a group of cat lovers who were also photography enthusiasts. The objective of the exhibition was to raise awareness about the plight of community cats in Singapore, as well as around the world. Photos of 29 cats from 10 countries were exhibited. Co-organiser Carlyn Law very kindly invited the Society to participate in the event, offering us the opportunity to interact with other cat lovers, talk to them about our cause, and raise funds through merchandise sales.

World Animal Day Exhibition, 6th & 7th October 2007

This exhibition was kindly organised by Action for Singapore Dogs (ASD) and held at Marina Square in celebration of World Animal Day 2007. We are grateful to ASD for extending the invitation to us to participate in the event.

AVA Roadshow, 17th & 18th November 2007

This annual event by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) was held at Ngee Ann City and had “Do not abandon your pets” as the theme. We were happy to be part of AVA’s effort in promoting responsible pet ownership. A certificate of participation was presented to us by Dr. Maliki Osman, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of National Development.

5. In the Media

NewsRadio 93.8 programme “For and Against”, 22nd January 2007

Dawn was part of a discussion panel about whether HDB should decentralise powers and allow residents to run their own estates. The implications of such a proposal were that residents themselves would decide whether cats should be allowed in estates and in flats, and more generally that residents would have power over the fate of community cats in the estate.

Letter in Today Newspaper, 31 January 2007

Titled, “Time to cull those cat myths”. (The link on Dawn’s blog no longer works though)

NewsRadio 93.8 programme “Talkback”, 2nd February 2007

Dawn was part of a discussion about whether cats have a place in HDB flats.

Email interview with the Singapore Law Review, 5th February 2007

This interview was published in the February issue of *Juris Illuminae* and covered CWS’s cause as well as Dawn’s work at the Society.

Interview with Pets Magazine, 7 June 2007

Dawn's interview with them highlighted her work and was published in the July/August 2007 issue of Pets Magazine.

Mediation and Liaison

Throughout 2007, the Society continued to meet with various Town Councils either on invitation by the Town Councils themselves or when caregivers requested our presence at these meetings. These meetings usually had to do with starting TNRM programmes and explaining how these programmes can be aligned with Town Council objectives. We also did a lot of mediation work to help resolve disputes and complaints.

Some of these meetings we had were with:

1. Tampines Town Council, *11th May 2007*
2. Dr. Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, MP for Marine Parade GRC, *19th June 2007*
3. Dr. Maliki Osman, MP for Sembawang GRC, *1st August 2007*
4. Pasir Ris-Punggol Town Council, *10th August 2007*

In addition, we had a few meetings with MPs and other government representatives, such as the following:

1. Town Council General Managers Meeting, *28th May 2007*

The Society first wrote to Dr. Teo Ho Pin, Member of Parliament for Bukit Panjang and Chairman of the Town Councils, in May 2007 to enquire about why Town Councils have been hesitant to support in a community cat sterilisation programme put together by the AVA. The programme would be very helpful to TNRM efforts because it would see significant funds channeled to providing caregivers/residents of HDB estates with subsidised or even free sterilisations. The Society was subsequently invited by Dr. Teo to attend a Town Council General Managers Meeting scheduled for 28th May 2007 to share our views about community cat management. Representatives from the Society at the meeting were committee members Dawn Kua, Corbie Kiernan, Marcus Lee and Michelle Lee. While the meeting was a good opportunity to air our views and to find out more about Dr. Teo's perspective of the situation, the outcome of the meeting was not as we had hoped. Dr. Teo maintained that Town Councils have to maintain a 'no strays' policy that effectively precludes them from actively supporting sterilisation. When asked about the basis of the policy, we were told that it is in keeping with the spirit of HDB's regulation that forbids the keeping of cats in HDB flats. Dr. Teo suggested that the Society direct efforts at rehoming all community cats. We are disinclined to take up such a challenge given the intractability of such a solution and the fact that TNRM remains the more effective means to manage the community cat population.

Subsequent to the meeting, we wrote HDB to get clarification on whether the rule that forbids the keeping of cats in flats has implications for community cats in common areas. HDB's reply to us noted that the Housing & Development (Animals) Rules apply only to cats kept in HDB residential flats and not to stray cats in common property. We wrote Dr. Teo subsequently citing HDB's stance on the issue, but were not successful in getting him to reconsider the 'no strays' policy.

2. Meeting with Dr. Maliki Osman, 5th November 2007

The Society requested for a meeting with Dr. Maliki Osman, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of National Development, to discuss how we can work with the AVA on managing the community cat population. Committee members Dawn Kua and Michelle Lee attended the meeting. We discussed, among other things, the status of AVA's subsidy programme for sterilisation, the possibility of AVA including a leaflet (written by the Society) with every trap that AVA loans out, informing people of TNRM as an effective other option.

Adoption

Approximately 310 cats were adopted through the efforts of our adoption team, comprising Dell Chan and Sophia Tan. The typical number of cats adopted per month is 30, but that number falls to 20 in the slower months of Jan, Feb, June and November.

Our adoption efforts include finding fosters who provide cats with a temporary home, posting pictures and descriptions of cats on our website's adoption board and in our newsletters, preparing a 'catalogue' of cats available for adoption for display at exhibitions, advising fosters on what to look for in a good adopter and doing follow-up visits to ensure that adopted cats are in good hands.

At the end of 2007, when Dell stepped down as our adoptions volunteer and having been unable to find a suitable replacement, we had to reduce our involvement in the above activities. We continue to post cats for adoption on our website's adoption board, but instead of acting as the agent of sorts in our matching and advisory role, we now ask potential adopters to contact fosters directly. We hope to resume a more active role in the near future.

Rescue

The Society spent \$17,777 on rescue work in 2007, a more than three-fold increase compared to 2006. This was due largely to a change in policy that the Society effected in the later half of 2006. The Society decided that it would be open to reimbursing medical costs for community cats, but on a case-by-case basis with consideration given to such things as the medical condition of the cat, whether treatment is of a elective or critical nature, and the financial circumstance of the caregiver. The Society does not provide funds for the treatment of home cats. Any requests for financial aid for home cats can, however, be posted in the Special Appeals section of our website.

Working with other Welfare Organisations

I. Project Million Lotus, May 2007

We were invited to be part of Project Million Lotus organised by the Singapore Buddhist Federation in support of inter-religious harmony. We thought it would be a good way to get our message out to members of the public in general and to the buddhist community in particular, and decided to accept the invitation. Committee member Corbie Kiernan kindly offered to spear-head the effort. The project put our creativity to test because it involved the adoption of a *harmony pillar* that we then had to decorate in a way that conveyed the essence of our cause. The final product was then put on display, along with the harmony pillars of dozens of other organisations, as art installation, at Ngee Ann City on 26th and 27th March, to coincide with Vesak Day celebrations.

2. Lunch with Welfare Organisations, 27th August 2007

In 2006, we organised an informal lunch with members of other welfare groups. We are all usually so busy that the only times we see each other are at meetings or in times of crisis, so we thought it would be nice to touch base and get to know each other in an informal setting. We decided to follow-up on that with another lunch in 2007. The organisations invited for this get-together were Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Action for Singapore Dogs (ASD), Animal Concerns Research and Education (ACRES), House Rabbits Society of Singapore (HRSS), Vegetarian Society of Singapore, Noah's Ark Cares, Animal Lover's League, SOS Animals, MettaCats, Nature Society and the National University of Singapore Students' Animal Welfare Group. More than 20 people showed up, with a few people dropping by to say hello but did not stay for lunch.

We would like to thank the different welfare organisations for taking time to join us at lunch and for their support throughout the years.

Staff Changes

Dawn Kua, who has been the Society's only full-time employee for the last six years resigned from her position on 31st Dec 2007. Her contributions to the Society have been immeasurable and we owe much of the progress we have made to her working tirelessly towards the cause. Her dedication, patience and eloquence are just a few things that will be deeply missed. We wish her all the best as she embarks on this new phase of her life.

The Society announced in early December that we will be hiring a part-time administrative assistant to take over the daily administrative duties previously covered by Dawn. We invited applications to the position via our website and through more informal word-of-mouth.

In May 2007, Rebecca Ho was hired to provide assistance to Dawn on a part-time basis, as Dawn's workload was getting increasingly heavy. Unfortunately, Rebecca decided to resign from the position in July 2007 for a number of reasons, among which were study and family business commitments, as well as the fact that she felt her roles as employee of the Society and caregiver led to conflicting interests at times. Rebecca did an excellent job for the short time that she was with us and she will definitely be missed.

Other Matters

1. Thank-you Tea Session, 16th June 2007

The Society organised a thank-you tea session at the National Library to express our appreciation to volunteers who have been actively involved in the Society's activities.

2. Storage space

The Society used to have some warehousing space at Kian Teck Crescent provided to us free-of-charge. In August 2007, we had to move out of that space because of a new tenancy agreement the company had. After getting a number of quotes from commercial storage companies, we concluded that rental costs were prohibitive. It was later that we chanced upon an ad by Ocean Trans Logistics Pte. Ltd. for rental storage space in Tampines that fit our budget. The warehouse is used mainly for holding merchandise, cat traps, and props for exhibitions.

AUDITORS REPORT

Message to members of the Cat Welfare Society:

We have audited the financial statements of the Cat Welfare Society for the year ended 31st December 2007. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's executive committee. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Singapore Standards on Auditing. These Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the Societies Act and Statements of Accounting Standard and so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as of 31st December 2007 and of the cash flows of the Society for the period ended on that date.

Ngoh You'an
Honorary Auditor

Nathan Gillette
Honorary Auditor

28th March 2007

Income and Expenditure Statement*For the year ended 31st December 2007*

Income	
Membership Subscriptions	\$ 9,789.00
Donations	\$ 54,010.94
Society Merchandise Sales	\$ 4,780.90
Total Income	\$ 68,580.84
Cost of Sales	
Purchases	\$ 1,610.00
Gross Profit	\$ 66,970.84
Expenses	
Operating Expenses	
Education	\$ 2,915.70
Rescue	\$ 17,776.97
Sterilisation	\$ 32,503.78
Food	\$ 771.00
Transport	\$ 1,392.30
Cat Equipment	\$ 1,016.04
Administrative Expenses	
Accounting	\$ 1,000.00
Bank Charges	\$ 164.58
Postage	\$ 475.37
Office Supplies	\$ 289.60
Printing & Stationery	\$ 908.00
Promotion	\$ 340.40
Registrations, Licences	\$ 155.90
Staff - Salaries	\$ 20,805.00
Staff - CPF	\$ 2,798.00
Staff - SDL	\$ 218.00
Staff - CDAC	\$ 6.00
Casual Labour	\$ 430.00
Telecom Expenses	\$ 209.15
Internet Related Expenses	\$ 610.25
General Expenses	\$ 348.37
Rental	\$ 1,088.89
Penalty / Late Charges	\$ 27.00
Total Expenses	\$ 86,250.30
Operating Profit	\$ (19,279.46)

Balance Sheet

As at 31st December 2007

Current Assets

Cash On Hand	
DBS Bank	\$ 61,625.40
OCBC Bank	\$ 10,084.00
Total Cash On Hand	\$ 71,709.40
Total Current Assets	\$ 71,709.40
Other Assets	
Deposits Paid	\$ 472.00
Total Other Assets	\$ 472.00
Total Assets	\$ 72,181.40

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
Accruals	\$ 915.50
Amount Owing to Dawn	\$ 1,006.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 1,921.50
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,921.50

Net Assets \$ **70,259.90**

Equity

Prior Year's Surplus/Deficit	\$ 28,970.50
Retained Earnings	\$ 60,568.86
Current Year Surplus/Deficit	\$ (19,279.46)
Total Equity	\$ 70,259.90



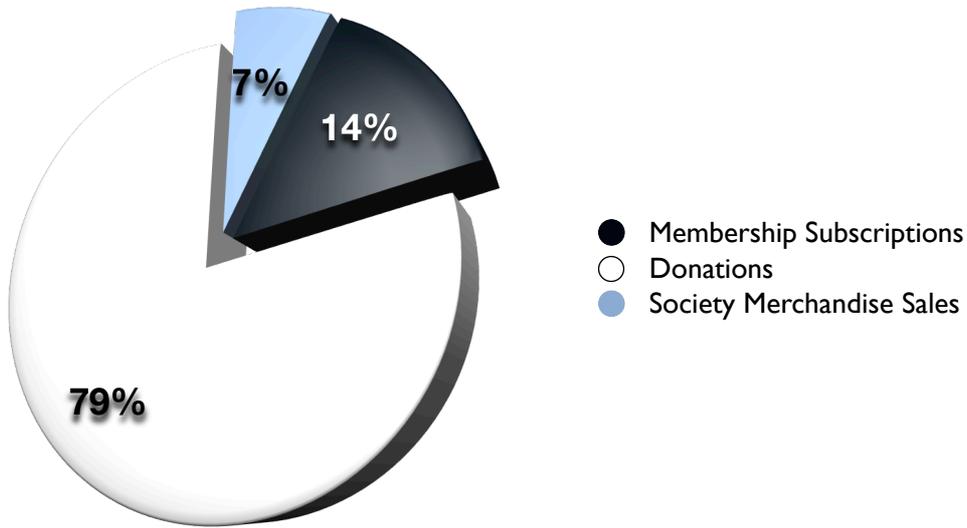
Michelle Lee, *President*



Marcus Lee, *Treasurer*

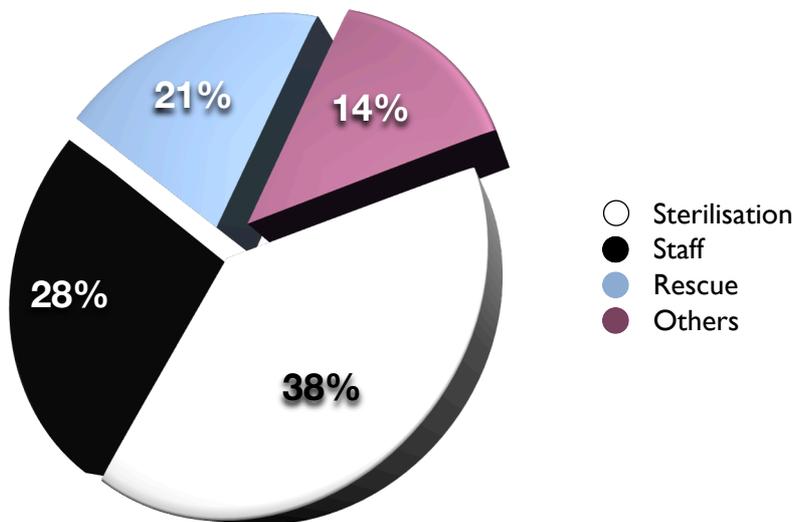
Income

The bulk of our income was derived from donations (79%), followed by membership subscriptions (14%) and finally by merchandise sales (7%). The proportions accounted for by the three sources of income remain almost the same as in the previous year. There was, however, a overall decline in income of almost 20% compared to the previous year.



Expenses

The three items that accounted for the bulk of our expenses were sterilisation (38%), staff (28%) and rescue (21%). The amount spent on sterilisation in 2007 was a four-fold increase compared to 2006. This was to be expected given the increase in sterilisation subsidy that saw us reimburse \$20 for every cat and \$60 for every 5th cat sterilised. This increase in spending on sterilisation is consistent with our overall mission of encouraging sterilisations. Staff costs also increased by approximately 44% because the Society had added a part-time position to its payroll, in addition to the full-time position we had always had.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to those we have thanked in the body of this report, the Society would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the following individuals and organisations who have helped us in many ways during the year

Organisations

SPCA
ASD
ACRES
Singapore Cat Club
Singapore Buddhist Federation
Centre for Animal Welfare and Control, AVA

Individuals

Sophia Tan
Wiggie Lim
Nan Nan Tint
Jodie Puah
Dr. Tan Chek Wee
Nancy Tan
Dell Chan
Ivan Ong
Dr. Lou Ek Hee
Mdm Soon Soo Moi
Carlyn Law
Zhenyuan
Colin Hu
Phyllis Tan
Caron Tan
Geffree
Windy
Weiyan
Ian Cheong
Sherry Nee
Roszanah
Roger Loh
Irene Lee

We would also like to express our gratitude to the many caregivers across the island who carry out TNRM work, without whom none of this would have been possible.

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