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## **ABOUT THE CAT WELFARE SOCIETY**

The Cat Welfare Society was registered under the Societies Act on 23<sup>rd</sup> 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:

- promote tolerance, kindness and respect towards cats and other living creatures
- raise awareness about the plight of Singapore's stray 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
- advocate sterilization as opposed to eradication as a means of controlling the stray cat population
- promote responsible pet ownership and responsible management of stray 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 stray cats on our streets. Through our education, adoption, rescue and stray cat management programmes, we hope to enhance the lives of these cats so that there will eventually be no more abuse, killing 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 stray cats.

The Society has one full time employee, but is still 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](http://www.catwelfare.org). Many of the items mentioned in this report – such as newspaper and magazine articles, interviews, speeches and information on exhibitions can be viewed on our website.

The Society can be contacted by email at [info@catwelfare.org](mailto:info@catwelfare.org) or by post at Orchard PO Box 65, Singapore 912303.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2004/2005**

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| President        | Wee Liang Tong |
| Vice-President   | Christina Eng  |
| Treasurer        | Josephine Teo  |
| Secretary        | Serina Rahman  |
| Committee Member | Jolanda Hengst |
| Committee Member | Dawn Kua       |
| Committee Member | Judith Lindley |
| Committee Member | Tay Sia Ping   |
| Committee Member | Evelyn Toh     |
| Committee Member | Lynn Yeo       |

The committee meets every month.

## **MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE**

To have a clearer picture of what CWS did last year, we need to revisit what happened in 2003.

That year, as we all know, our major project – the Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme – was arbitrarily stopped by the AVA. Hundreds of volunteers were left stranded and afraid. Are our cats protected? How to continue sterilising? Why continue sterilising?

CWS rose to the occasion by helping volunteers in any way we reasonably could. We continued with free or subsidised sterilisations and medical help until June 2004, when our coffers ran dry. We then had to make the painful decision to stop all subsidies for sterilisation but continue to procure subsidised sterilisation rates for volunteers at commercial clinics.

We also stepped up our efforts to get as many cats adopted as possible, as we knew that many volunteers had taken in many strays from the streets due to the increased culling. More funds were thus spent on renting places to set up adoption drives, pay for the cats' vaccinations and sterilisations, and subsidising food and cat litter costs for volunteer fosters who took care of kittens for adoption. We are proud to say that as a result, we managed to find homes for 210 cats and kittens last year. An additional 115 cats and kittens were placed through our online adoption board.

As a result of the intensified culling of mid-2003, CWS spent much of 2004 recovering from its after-effects. We had to balance our accounts by painfully stopping cash outflows such as sterilisation subsidies. Due to the shortfall in funds, we could not produce new merchandise for sale, and as a result, we held fewer public exhibitions.

Supporters of CWS will know that we are not a rash group. We consider our moves carefully and think about the possible long-term benefits and effects of any action. This is because we are in the business of saving lives and we have to ensure that whatever action we take will ultimately help cats more, not hurt them.

In this light, 2004 can be said to be a year of consolidation and reflection for CWS. We realised that we had to re-look the way cat populations are managed, and given the new situation where the authorities might not be as cooperative as before, how best to proceed to ensure that volunteers get enough support and cats are adequately protected. Our answer was: to set up our own sterilisation clinic and take over and improve upon the sterilisation scheme that AVA closed down.

Only a dedicated sterilisation clinic will be able to handle the volume of sterilisations required to bring the cat numbers down to a controllable size after the intensified culling, where new cats and kittens have come on to take the vacant spaces. Also, because the SCRS was scrapped by the authorities, we had to work doubly hard to support and promote such a scheme to existing and new town councils and private management groups – this meant reworking the rationale for and operational procedures of the scheme.

Throughout the rest of 2004, the committee was busy working out feasibility plans for the establishment of such a clinic. We wanted two things: high volume and low cost. We talked to many vets, checked out the prices of equipment, and projected how many cats can and will be sterilised, etc. We also approached sponsors for the possibility of free or subsidised transport and sterilisations as we know that many volunteer feeders have difficulty paying for commercial transport or taxis.

Towards the end of 2004, we were approached by the authorities and told that they were re-examining the feasibility of humane methods of cat population control. We met with them several times and tried our best to have the SCRS or similar schemes reinstated. To date, all we can say is, they are still assessing the situation.

We hope you now can see why CWS might have appeared to be “under the radar” last year to many people: a lot of the work we were doing was behind-the-scenes and was not easy to publicise.

We have not forgotten our mission, which is to improve the welfare of stray cats in Singapore through the promotion and implementation of humane methods of population control. We are glad to say that we have co-opted a few new and fresh-faced committee members who will put their energies into the running of the society.

We are happy to announce that our period of reflection and consolidation has ended, and the fruits of our labour will be seen in the very near future. We thank one and all for your support through this difficult times and appeal to you to continue supporting our cause in the coming years.

Thank you.



## **AGENDA FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

1. Minutes of Annual General Meetings

To confirm and adopt minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2004.

2. Annual Report of the Committee

To receive and adopt the Annual Report for the year 2004.

3. Audited Account

To receive and adopt the audited accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

4. 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 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON : 25<sup>th</sup> March 2004

AT : 7:30 pm

VENUE : Purple Studio, National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre,  
7 Maxwell Road, #05-01 MND Complex  
Singapore 069111

President Lynn Yeo apologized for committee members Jean Lau, Loh Yeow Nguan and Evelyn Toh not being present. As there was no quorum, the meeting began at 8.10 pm.

### 1. Agenda

1.1. To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

Proposer : Christina Eng  
Secunder : Judith Lindley

1.2. To receive and adopt the annual report of the Committee

Summary of CWS' AGM Report by President Lynn Yeo

- It was a bad year for cats because of increased culling
- President Lynn Yeo explained why CWS did not bid for shelters
- CWS also faced a deficit due to the increasing number of people asking for help with sterilisations in the aftermath of SARS and CWS is running on less money right now.
- Many cats were however adopted last year.
- CWS also got some publicity for our work. Hopefully this will help in terms of money and other things.

Vice-President Wee Liang Tong and Director of Operations Dawn Kua highlighted the following :-

- SCRS and its termination
- Adoption drive and adophaton
- Education sub-committee revamped under Serina Rahman
- World Animal Day
- Media coverage very high – carried in newspapers and the media all over the world, including most of the local media.
- Meeting with Singapore Tourism Board and with Ministry of Environment

- Feeding cats is not illegal, as long as it is cleaned up properly.
- Amount spent on rescue cases was very high for the Society
- An increase had been noted in the number of abuse cases
- Sterilisation costs had gone up and due to the termination of the SCRS, volunteers had to go to private veterinarians
- The Society's volunteers sent in more than 1250 cats to private veterinarians in 2003.
- The Society is still run almost entirely by volunteers.
- The Website has been very successful and the Society is revamping the website and it will go live shortly.
- Kill Ignorance, Not Animals t-shirts produced with the other groups
- Thanked volunteers, animal groups and clinics for all their help.
- Before SARS, there had been a lot of success with various ways to help the strays. Things were looking very good before March. Unfortunately SARS broke out.

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

Proposer : Josephine Teo  
 Secunder : Serina Rahman

### 1.3.To receive and adopt the audited accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003.

The President thanked Tang Min Pei and Tok Xiaowei for auditing the accounts and Ros Seah for preparing the accounts.

The Audited accounts were presented by Dr Lynn Yeo and were adopted.

Proposer : Wee Liang Tong  
 Secunder : Tay Sia Ping

### 1.4.Election of 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Committee

To elect the following office bearers and Ordinary Committee Members for the year 2004 and 2005

- a. President – Wee Liang Tong  
Proposer : Lynn Yeo  
Seconder : Tay Sia Ping
  
- b. Vice-President – Christina Eng  
  
Proposer : Josephine Teo  
Seconder : Judith Lindley
  
- c. Treasurer: Josephine Teo  
  
Proposer : Wee Liang Tong  
Seconder : Christina Eng
  
- d. Secretary : Serina Rahman  
  
Proposer : Christina Eng  
Seconder : Lynn Yeo
  
- e. Committee Members : Jolanda Hengst  
  
Proposer : Dawn Kua  
Seconder : Serina Rahman
  
- f. Committee Member : Dawn Kua  
Proposer : Christina Eng  
Seconder : Josephine Teo
  
- g. Committee Member : Judith Lindley  
Proposer : Tay Sia Ping  
Seconder : Dawn Kua
  
- h. Committee Member : Tay Sia Ping  
Proposer : Lynn Yeo  
Seconder : Christina Eng
  
- i. Honourary Auditors :  
  
Gillian Kwa :  
Proposer : Dawn Kua  
Seconder : Josephine Teo  
  
Jennifer Ong :  
Proposer : Christina Eng

Secunder : Lynn Yeo

## 2.0 Any Other Business

- Newsletter was just printed and would be distributed to all members.
- A number of vet clinics have increased rates for sterilisation.
- Janice Ong was very concerned about the stray cats and said she lost many cats and wanted to know what she could do.
- President Lynn Yeo suggested that this be brought up after the meeting.
- Corrina Dieu asked about the tender for the land and asked about what happened with the tender.
- President Lynn Yeo and Director of Operations, Dawn Kua explained.

## 3.0 Closing of Meeting

There being no further business, the President thanked the floor for their attendance, feedback, contribution and comments.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.



Wee Liang Tong, President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee

## COMMITTEE'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2004

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| January 6 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Meeting with hotel to discuss setting up of Cat Café   |
| January 7 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Filming part of documentary for school project for Ngee Ann Polytechnic students                         |
| January 9 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Accompanied volunteers to meet with Ms. Halimah Yacob  |
| January 16 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Mediation at Faber Crescent  |
| January 19 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Meeting with East Coast Town Council   |
| January 28 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Mediation in Marsiling   |
| January 29 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Meeting with SMU students  |
| January 30 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Meeting with Ngee Ann Polytechnic students   |
| January 30 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Accompanied volunteer to help investigations into a case of abuse at Cantonment Police Complex.          |
| January 30 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Mediation at Changi Village  |
| February 10 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Filming of volunteer for documentary on Senior citizens in Singapore                                     |
| February 12 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with Ngee Ann Polytechnic students   |
| February 14 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with volunteers  |
| February 16 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with Major-General Peter Davies, Director-General of World Society for the Protection of Animals |
| February 18 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with Ngee Ann Polytechnic students   |
| February 25 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Interview on Adophaton   |
| February 29 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Adophaton  |
| March 2 <sup>nd</sup>                     | : | Meeting with Dr Jean Paul Ly   |
| March 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | : | Meeting with SMU students  |
| March 6 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with volunteer organizing benefit dinner   |
| March 7 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Adoption drive at Cat Show   |
| March 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Mediation at Figaro Street   |
| March 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with hotel to discuss setting up Cat Café  |
| March 25 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Annual General Meeting   |
| March 28 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Attended Bayshore Park AGM   |
| March 31 <sup>st</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Singapore Tourism Board   |
| April 6 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with Worldpay  |
| April 6 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with Millenia Walk   |
| April 8 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Mediation at Bedok Reservoir Road  |
| April 8 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Mediation at Condominium   |
| April 17 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | First Extra-ordinary General Meeting   |
| April 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Mediation at East Coast Road   |
| April 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Ngee Ann Polytechnic students   |
| April 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Dr Jean-Paul Ly   |
| April 25 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Adophaton  |
| April 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> | : | Exhibition at Anglo-Chinese Junior College   |

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| May 6 <sup>th</sup>                      | : | Interview by IS Magazine   |
| May 8 <sup>th</sup>                      | : | Meeting with Residents' Committee  |
| May 10 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup>  | : | Attendance at Fundraising Seminar for NGOs organised by Resource Alliance and Citibank                         |
| May 14 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Benefit dinner held for Action for Singapore Dogs and CWS  |
| May 15 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Barbeque for Exhibitions Volunteers  |
| May 22 <sup>nd</sup>                     | : | Event at Swiss Club  |
| May 27 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Highlight of abuse case on Channel News Asia   |
| June                                     | : | CWS suspends sterilisation reimbursements due to lack of funds.  |
| June 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | : | Mediation at Pasir Ris   |
|  | : | Mediation at Woodlands   |
| June 4 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup>   | : | Article in IS Magazine about volunteerism in Singapore   |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with producers doing a documentary   |
| June 10 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Interview with Crew Magazine   |
| June 15 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Interview for American Association newsletter  |
| June 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Reply to letter in Lianhe Zaobao   |
| June 20 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Adophaton  |
| June 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    | : | Meeting with condominium to start up Cat Café  |
| June 24 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Mediation at Killiney Road   |
| June 26 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> | : | Adoption drive at Tanjong Katong Complex   |
| June 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Interview for The New Paper  |
|  | : | Meeting with National Volunteers and Philanthropy Centre   |
| July 10 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> | : | Exhibition at The Heeren   |
| July 13 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting to set up Cat Café at tertiary institute   |
| July 15 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with AXS   |
| July 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> | : | Adoption Drive at The Heeren by Animal Planet  |
| July 18 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Article on how cats can be beneficial for babies and children, Sunday Times                                    |
| July 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> | : | Exhibition at Pioneer JC   |
| July 20 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Pet Lovers Centre   |
| July 26 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Condominium to work out details of Cat Café   |
|  | : | Meeting with Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore for discussion on Responsible Pet Ownership drive |
| July 27 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Exhibition at Nanyang Technological University Heritage Walk   |
| July 28 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Letter to Straits Times Forum asking for local cats to be celebrated instead of the Singapura                  |

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| August 5 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with Residents' Committee to set up cat café   |
| August 13 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> | : | Meeting with Dr Jean-Paul Ly<br>Sale of merchandise at Scotts Shopping Centre                      |
| August 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> | : | Attendance at Conference for Homeless Animal Management Policy, Florida USA                        |
| August 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    | : | Adoptathon   |
| September 9 <sup>th</sup>                  | : | Meeting with AXS   |
| September 11 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Part of Forum at Substations' September Festival   |
|  |   | Exhibition in Substation Garden  |
| September 13 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with STB   |
| September 14 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Mediation at Ang Mo Kio  |
| September 15 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Meeting with local tertiary institute to set up Cat café   |
| September 24 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | School talk  |
| September 25 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Talk at Fuchun Community Club<br>Meeting at condominium  |
| September 29 <sup>th</sup>                 | : | Mediation at Ang Mo Kio  |
| October – November                         | : | Article in Go Digital magazine   |
| October 9 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting producers for local entertainment programme  |
|  |   | Meeting with volunteer photographers   |
| October 17 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | AVA Pet Adoption Drive   |
| October 19 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Meeting with Dr Tay Lee Hon  |
| October 20 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Meeting with Dr Jean-Paul Ly   |
| October 21 <sup>st</sup>                   | : | Meeting with volunteers  |
| October 23 <sup>rd</sup>                   | : | CWS Fifth Anniversary Charity Dinner   |
| October 25 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Reply to letter in Streats   |
| October 28 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Social dinner with volunteers from NANAS<br>Meeting with Dr Lenny Lee                              |
| October 29 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Exhibition at A-Star<br>Meeting with Vet Clinic<br>Reply to letter in Streats                      |
| November                                   | : | Article in Vida! Magazine on adoption and fostering  |
| November 2 <sup>nd</sup>                   | : | Viewing of cat sterilisation<br>Meeting with North American Bear Company<br>Meeting with Cay Group |
| November 4 <sup>th</sup>                   | : | Viewing SPCA clinic<br>Meeting with Dr Jean Paul Ly  |

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| November 5 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Social lunch with ACRES volunteers  |
| November 9 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Meeting with Minister Lim Swee Say  |
| November 10 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Mediation at Ang Mo Kio   |
| November 12 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Dr Jean- Paul Ly   |
|  |   | Meeting with volunteers about photo book  |
| November 16 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with National Council of Social Services                                  |
| November 17 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with volunteer for photo book   |
| November 18 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with STB  |
|  |   | Meeting with MUIS   |
| November 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Interview with NewsRadio  |
| November 19 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> | : | Participated in AVA's Responsible Pet Ownership Drive                             |
| November 21 <sup>st</sup>                    | : | Adophaton   |
| November 23 <sup>rd</sup>                    | : | Meeting with Dr Tan Hwa Luck  |
| November 26 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with tertiary institute to discuss humane solutions to cat overpopulation |
| November 29 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with volunteer photographers  |
|  |   | Meeting with volunteer designer   |
| November 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with STB  |
|  |   | Meeting with webmaster  |
| December 1 <sup>st</sup>                     | : | Social lunch with volunteers from SPCA  |
| December 3 <sup>rd</sup>                     | : | Article in IS Magazine on Volunteers  |
| December 7 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Mediation at Kim Pong Road  |
|  |   | Mediation in Ang Mo Kio   |
| December 8 <sup>th</sup>                     | : | Photo shoot at foster home  |
|  |   | Photo shoot at adopter's home   |
| December 11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> | : | Sale of merchandise at Orchard Cineleisure  |
| December 14 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with volunteer photographers  |
| December 15 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Mediation at Institution Hill   |
| December 28 <sup>th</sup>                    | : | Meeting with volunteers for Photo book  |

## **OUR ACTIVITIES**

### **Suspension of reimbursement for sterilisations**

In June 2004, the Cat Welfare Society had to decide to stop reimbursement of costs for sterilisations. While we were most reluctant to have to take this step, due to the surge in demand for sterilisation slots due to the cessation of the Agri-Veterinary Authority of Singapore's (AVA) Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme, and the free slots that were provided by the AVA, we saw an increase of 60% in our sterilisation costs and 200% increase in our rescue costs in 2003. Due to the increased publicity, more people also came forward to ask for reimbursements.

Added to an increase in the costs to veterinarians due to an increase in the price of material, the Society found itself in dire financial straits in June 2004, with only \$15000 left in our account.

We would like to thank members, volunteers and friends who generously responded to our appeals for funds either with donations in cash or with their words of support.

We are working on continuing to secure reduced sterilisation rates for volunteer caregivers and have plans for the upcoming year to do more.

### **Status of the Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme**

The Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme remains suspended at the moment. However we have been in talks with the Ministry of National Development (MND) and the AVA to bring back the SCRS.

#### ***1. Meeting with Mr Lim Swee Say, 2<sup>nd</sup> Minister, Ministry of National Development, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2004***

CWS President, Wee Liang Tong, Vice-President Christina Eng, and Director of Operations, Dawn Kua met with Mr Lim and officials from the AVA and the MND to discuss the Stray Cat Rehabilitation Scheme. Also present were representatives from the Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), SOS Animals and Animal Lovers' League.

The meeting was promising and Mr Lim will be looking into the possibility of bringing the SCRS back. At the end of the meeting, the other welfare groups have nominated CWS to represent all the welfare groups in future meetings with the AVA and MND on this matter. The Society has since met with AVA in 2005 to further discuss this.

## **Adoption and Fostering**

Our adoption team managed to find homes for 210 cats in 2004. Our website, where both the Society's and public fosters were able to put cats up for adoption, also found homes for at least another 115 cats. We also held adoption drives on a regular basis.

In addition to the Society's regular adoption drives, we also took part in adoption drives organised by the Cat Club and Julia and Hart of Nupets. Thanks to the both of them for their invitations

### ***1. Open Hearts, Open Minds Adoption Drive***

The Society held Adopthatons every even month except in October as there was another large adoption drive the Society took part in. Our December adoption drive was also moved up to November as the Society has noticed slower response during festive seasons.

At our adoption drives, a total number of 80 cats were adopted. However, we noted that the number of cats adopted began to fall in the latter half of the year. At our November drive, only two kittens were adopted, and two adult cats were abandoned on the grounds, presumably for the Society to find. As a result of this, we have decided to suspend our adoption drives for the time being.

### ***2. AVA Pet Adoption Drive, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2005***

The Society, along with several other welfare organizations, took part in the AVA's Adoption Drive at Bishan Park 2. Due to the large amount of publicity surrounding the event, the turnout was very good. The Society managed to adopt out 15 cats.

The Society thanks the AVA for inviting us to the Adoption drive and hope that they organise more of these events.

## **Conferences**

The Society took part in two conferences in 2004. The Society feels it is important to attend relevant conferences, both in order to learn and to meet people who work in similar fields.

### ***1. Fundraising Seminar for Non-Profit Organisations, May 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> 2004***

Christina and Dawn attended the fundraising seminar that was jointly organised by Citibank and the Resource Alliance. Several

non-profit organizations were also present as the trainers from Resource Alliance shared their experience both locally and overseas.

## **2. Conference for Humane Animal Management Policy (CHAMP), Florida USA, August 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2004**

Dawn represented the Society at this annual conference which was attended by animal welfare groups from all over the world. There were 35 speakers and 60 exhibitors at the conference dealing with issues such as high volume spay neuter clinics and many other topics.

Dawn was also invited to give a short talk on the Society at the International Panel held on the last day of the conference. Thanks to Kim Bartlett from Animal People for organizing the Panel.

## **Education and Public Awareness**

We gave talks this year and also took part in exhibitions to raise awareness and funds. We also issued a range of Zocards to increase awareness of the work the Society does and the amount it costs us.

During the course of the year, the Society was also approached by several different groups of students who needed help with their school projects. These included students from Primary school level to the tertiary institutions. The Society met with several of these groups and also answered many queries through e-mail.

### **1. Exhibitions**

#### Exhibition at AVA's Responsible Pet Ownership Drive, 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2004

The Society, along with a number of other welfare groups took part in an exhibition at the AVA's Responsible Pet Ownership Drive at Great World City.

#### Exhibition at Pioneer JC, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> July 2004

The Society set up an exhibition for the students to view the plight of stray cats in Singapore. Thanks to Rebecca Tan for helping to organize the exhibition.

### **2. In the Media**

The Society was mentioned in a number of publications throughout 2004. Here are a few highlights.

Highlighting of abuse case, Channel News Asia, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2004

The Society was contacted by one of our volunteers, Ms Lily Low, who picked up a stray with a raffia string tied so roughly around its paw that the paw had started to rot away.

The Society offered a \$1000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the culprit, but no one came forward to claim the money. Ms. Low has since adopted Raffia.

Thanks to everyone who donated money to Raffia's medical expenses.

Article in Crew magazine, August-September 2004

Liang Tong, Christina and Dawn were interviewed about the current status of the stray cat situation in Singapore.

### **3. Talks**

Participated in Forum at Substations' September Festival, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2004

The Society took part in a panel discussion at the Substations' September Festival. A number of other welfare groups, including the SPCA, ACRES and others were present.

The Society then exhibited at the fair in the Substation Garden later in the afternoon. Thanks to Lucy Davis for inviting us.

Talk at Canossa Convent, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2004

The Society was invited to give a talk during school assembly to the pupils of Canossa Convent. Thanks to Jacqueline Oehlers for inviting us.

Talk at Fuchun Community Club, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2004

The Society was invited to give talks at several Community Clubs on Caring for your Cat. Unfortunately the response was not as good for the other CCs and they were cancelled.

Liang Tong gave the talk at Fuchun Community Club at the invitation of the Community Club.

#### **4. Presentations and Meetings**

We made several presentations to condominium managements, residents' committees, estate management for tertiary institutions and others to ask them to consider adopting a humane alternative to killing of cats.

Several of them implemented our Cat Café programme which is detailed further below.

##### Meeting with Major-General Peter Davies, February 16<sup>th</sup> 2004

The Society was fortunate to have had a chance to meet Major-General Peter Davies, Director-General of the World Society for the Protection of Animals and Ms. Vadivu Govind, the Asia Representative for WSPA when Major-General Davies was in Singapore. The Society, along with the Action for Singapore Dogs discussed WSPA's role worldwide and the situation of animals in Singapore. The Society is a member society of WSPA which has more than 485 members worldwide.

##### Meeting with National Council of Social Services, November 16<sup>th</sup> 2004

The Society sent in our application for National Council of Social Services' membership in July 2004. This is a necessary step before a Charity can apply for Institute of Public Character (IPC) status, which allows for tax exemptions.

Unfortunately, the Society was informed in late January 2005 that our application had been turned down as the Society does not benefit people directly. The Society has since applied to the Singapore Environmental Council.

With the Prime Minister's recent budget speech emphasizing animal welfare as one of the areas where in which he hopes Singaporeans come forward, the Society is hopeful that we will be able to get IPC status.

##### Meeting with the Singapore Tourism Board, November 30<sup>th</sup> 2004

Christina and Dawn met with several representatives from the Singapore Tourism Board, including Ken Low Director of Brand Management and Lifestyle and Events.

The Society shared our concerns about the promotion of the Singapura cat, whose origins are mired in controversy, and which is widely believed not to have come from Singapore at all.

The Society urged the Singapore Tourism Board to consider promoting our local cats instead, as tourists like them, instead of the Singapura, of which the Society understands, there are only two in Singapore.

STB agreed to promote the local cats but will do so alongside the Singapura.

### **Mediation and Liaison**

The Society took part in several cases of mediation, both in Housing and Development Board (HDB) estates and private estates.

Again we find that in situations where both complainant and cat caregiver are reasonable and want to find a solution, mediation is almost always successful. The Society thus does not entertain anonymous complaints that are e-mailed to us as we want to be able to speak to both parties and let them know of the progress. The Society also feels that as with any other scenario, the person being accused should have the right to defend him or herself, and an anonymous complaint does not allow that.

#### ***1. Mediation at Pasir Ris, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2004***

Christina and Dawn went down to meet with a person who had been visited by the Housing and Development Board and was told to remove his single cat. The cat was inside the flat at all times, and the flat was clean and there was no smell. Apparently, the neighbour in the block across the road was unhappy as she could see the cat from her window and had made a complaint. This was despite the fact that the cat was nowhere near her.

The Society wrote a letter to support the resident's appeal to the HDB.

### **Rescue**

The Society spent \$20,266.20 on rescue bills in 2004.

We continued to see a number of abuse cases, and to hear of many others which may not have been reported.

The Society tried to launch an abuse kit, comprising of brochure, disposable camera and the statute, but apart from one donation, the

Society was unable to get any other sponsorship. The Society hopes to put out at least a brochure sometime in 2005.

### **Stray Cat Management Programme**

As the SCRS was terminated, the Society continued to work in areas which were supportive of a trap-neuter-return-manage programme. This included several condominiums and private organisations.

Before the Society was forced to stop reimbursement for sterilisations, the Society spent \$22,181.80 for sterilisation at the Society's expense. At the same time, we have continued to help arrange an average of 110 subsidised slots for volunteers every month since June. We have helped to pay for or arrange for subsidised slots for 1526 cats in 2004.

#### ***1. Setting up Cat Cafes***

The Society was able to work with condominiums, a Residents' Corner, a hotel and several tertiary institutions to set up Cat Cafes across Singapore. These structures serve as a place where the cats can easily be caught for sterilisation, and where feeding can be carried out in a responsible manner at certain times of day.

The cats are also drawn away from feeding establishments in the area and from areas of high traffic. They can also then be easily monitored by the volunteers to ensure that they are well managed and well kept.

Thanks to volunteers in the Cat Café areas for helping to maintain the cats' well-being and welfare, and for their tireless dedication to looking after the cats, especially Mei Leng Hillier, Josephine Teo and her group, Marcus & Michelle Lee, Judith Lindley and her group, Tom Lim and group and Julie Ho.

We continue to need volunteers to help out in cat cafes across the island, or if you would like to start one where you live, please do contact us.

#### ***2. 7000-CATSNIP Voicemail***

In order to make it easier for people with no Internet access to contact the Society to book sterilisation slots, the Society acquired a voicemail box for sterilisations. Manned by our head of sterilisations, Jolanda Hengst, and volunteer Rebecca Ho, they receive an average of five calls a week. This is in addition to the emails that the Society continues to receive for sterilisation slots.

Thanks to Jolanda and Rebecca for their hard work.

### **3. Release of cats**

The Society also paid for microchips to be used for sterilised cats that were caught by the AVA which caregivers wanted to reclaim. 132 cats were microchipped at the Society's expense in 2004.

### **4. Meeting with MUIS, November 18<sup>th</sup> 2004**

Liang Tong and Dawn met with MUIS officials to discuss sterilisation of cats. MUIS, the Islamic authority in Singapore, has agreed to work with the Society on public education messages promoting sterilisation in Singapore. We would like to thank Mr Jamari Mohtar and Ms. Habibah Bte Mohd Saleh for all their help.

## **Staff**

The Society has one full-time staff, Dawn Kua, the Director of Operations. In order to keep overheads low, the Society has no office and Dawn works from home. The Society hopes to raise enough funds to hire more employees in 2005 to cope with the ever-increasing workload.

## **Volunteers**

The Society is run almost entirely by volunteers with the exception of one full timer. The Society is in need of volunteers to help in every area, but especially with Trap-Neuter-Return, fostering, transport and adoption.

We intend to run training sessions in 2005 for volunteers who wish to learn more about how they can help.

### *CWS Anniversary Dinner, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2004*

The Society celebrated our fifth anniversary dinner by arranging a dinner for volunteers, members and well-wishes at the Grand Copthorne Hotel. The dinner was attended by 30 of our members and friends, who all paid for their own dinners.

## **Website**

The Society's website underwent a revamp. However, due to the fact that the volunteer who was helping with the website was unable to help any longer due to other commitments, the Society is looking to hire someone to work on the website in 2005. As the website is our only link to the public, the Society feels it is imperative that it is working properly and that

a professional company will be best suited to ensuring that it is working all the time.

## **Working with other organizations**

### Animal Welfare and Environmental Organisations

The Society would like to thank all the animal and environmental organizations for their friendship, support and help throughout the year.

### Private Vet Clinics

The Society is grateful to all the private vet clinics who have provided discounted rates for stray cats brought in for medical treatment and sterilisation. We would like to especially thank Mount Pleasant Animal Hospital and its branches, Animal Clinic and its branches, Clinic for Pets, Animal Recovery Centre and its branches, All Pets and Aqualife and the Vet Practice.

## **Other Matters**

### **Sponsorship**

The Society is grateful for the sponsorship received from companies and individuals, who can be found at the back of this report.

**AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF CAT WELFARE SOCIETY**

We have audited the financial statements of the Cat Welfare Society for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004. 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 and of the cash flows of the Society for the period ended on that date.



Gillian Kwa  
Honourary Auditor



Julie Lee  
Honourary Auditor

28<sup>th</sup> March 2005, Singapore

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2004**

**REVENUE AND OTHER RECIEPTS**

|  | \$                |
|--|-------------------|
| Membership Subscriptions                                 | 22,639.50         |
| Donations  | 78,937.95         |
| Society Merchandise Sales                                | 5,992.75          |
| Anniversary Dinner                                       | 1,581.12          |
| Miscellaneous Income<br>(through uncashed in<br>cheques) | 1,142.20          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>109,684.40</b> |
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>                                |                   |
| Education  | 3,119.70          |
| Rescue   | 20,266.20         |
| Sterilisation  | 22,181.80         |
| Food, Litter, Etc  | 33,312.43         |
| Transport  | 3,720.70          |
| Cat Equipment  | 1,794.50          |
| <b>Administrative Expenses</b>                           |                   |
| Accounting   | 800.00            |
| Bank Charges   | 114.51            |
| Postage  | 987.26            |
| Printing & Stationery                                    | 415.12            |
| Registration, Licenses                                   | 224.77            |
| Staff-Salaries   | 6,100.00          |
| Staff - CPF  | 990.00            |
| Telecom Expenses   | 281.37            |
| Internet Related Expenses                                | 1,850.82          |
| General Expenses   | 1,884.12          |
| Surplus/(Deficit)  | 6,690.40          |
| Add : Fund Balance from<br>year 2003                     | 28,970.50         |
| <b>Fund Balance at Year End<br/>2004</b>                 | <b>35,660.90</b>  |

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2004

|                            | \$               |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>      |                  |
| Cash at Bank               | 36,968.90        |
| Deposits Payable           | 322.00           |
| <b>Total Assets</b>        | <b>37,290.90</b> |
|                            |                  |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b> |                  |
| Accounting Fee Payable     | 800.00           |
| Staff- Salary              | 500.00           |
| Staff- CPF                 | 330.00           |
|                            | <b>1,630.00</b>  |
| <b>Fund Balance</b>        | <b>35,660.90</b> |



Wee Liang Tong, President



Josephine Teo, Treasurer

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

### Income

The Society's programmes and activities for 2004 were funded from the following:-

|  | \$                | %           |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Membership Subscriptions                           | 22,639.50         | 20.6        |
| Donations  | 78,937.95         | 71.4        |
| Society Merchandise Sales                          | 5,992.75          | 5.46        |
| Anniversary Dinner                                 | 1,581.12          | 1.44        |
| Miscellaneous Income (through uncashed in cheques) | 1,142.20          | 1.04        |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>109,684.40</b> | <b>100*</b> |

\*rounded up to 100

### Expenditure

Due to our lack of funds, the Society had to stop reimbursements for sterilisations halfway through the year. We spent \$22,181.80, a drop of 35% as our funds had run down to \$15,000 in June, or a month and a half's running expenses. The Society will be attempting to increase the amount of subsidised slots that can be arranged and is trying to secure the most cost efficient means of providing sterilisations to the larger number of people at the most affordable rate.

Our higher expenditure on food litter and other medical costs was due to more volunteer fosters taking in strays off the street for rehoming subsequent to SARS and asking for assistance. With the number of cats decreasing due to many of them having been adopted, the amount is expected to drop substantially in 2005.

Education costs came to \$3,119.70. We were able to save money on our postcards which we put out for awareness on sterilisation, rehoming and rescue work that the Society carries out due to the generous sponsorship of both Pet Lovers Centre and Zocards.

Our merchandise sales went down to 5.46% due in large part to the fact that the Society had to reimburse the other animal welfare organizations for the profits from sale of the “Kill Ignorance, Not Animals” t-shirts.

Our Administrative expenses went up this year to 13.9%. General Expenses also went up partially due to the fact that the Society signed up with AXS to provide an easier method for people to donate to the Society by making donations through the AXS machines island wide. This has proven to be a good source of donations, and allows people to also donate or become members easily, even without a chequebook. The Society had to pay an upfront fee and a small transaction fee for each transaction that goes through. Overseas cheques also came in more frequently, leading to higher bank charges. We also incurred more postage charges as we sent out our newsletter more frequently in 2004 as opposed to the previous year. There was also an adjustment made to the accounts for salaries last year as there was a shortfall, leading to the slightly higher salary costs. We are hoping to employ more staff to help manage records and the workload.

|                                      | \$               | %            |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Operating Expenses</b>            |                  |              |
| Education                            | 3,119.70         | 3.69         |
| Rescue                               | 20,266.20        | 20.67        |
| Sterilisation                        | 22,181.80        | 22.62        |
| Food, Litter, Etc                    | 33,312.43        | 33.98        |
| Transport                            | 3,720.70         | 3.79         |
| Cat Equipment                        | 1,794.50         | 1.83         |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>      | <b>84,395.33</b> | <b>86.08</b> |
| <b>Administrative Expenses</b>       |                  |              |
| Accounting                           | 800.00           | 0.81         |
| Bank Charges                         | 114.51           | 0.17         |
| Postage                              | 987.26           | 1.07         |
| Printing & Stationery                | 415.12           | 0.42         |
| Registration, Licenses               | 224.77           | 0.23         |
| Staff-Salaries                       | 6,100.00         | 6.22         |
| Staff - CPF                          | 990.00           | 1.01         |
| Telecom Expenses                     | 281.37           | 0.29         |
| Internet Related Expenses            | 1,850.82         | 1.89         |
| General Expenses                     | 1,884.12         | 1.92         |
| <b>Total Administrative Expenses</b> | <b>13,647.97</b> | <b>13.92</b> |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                | <b>98,043.30</b> | <b>100*</b>  |

\*rounded up to 100

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to the following individuals, organizations and companies who have helped us in many ways during the year.

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Action for Singapore<br>Dogs<br>Dr Daphne Ang<br>Irene Ang<br>Animal Clinic and its<br>branches<br>Animal Concerns<br>Research and Education<br>Society (ACRES)<br>Animal Recovery Centre<br>and branches<br>Nathalie Baaren<br>All Breeds Pets<br>All Pets and Aqualife<br>Alley Cat Allies<br>Ang Mo Kio Town<br>Council<br>Animal Watch<br>Asia-Medic<br>Kim Bartlett<br>Business Times<br>Centre for Animal<br>Welfare and Control,<br>AVA<br>Channel News Asia<br>Michelle Chang<br>Richard Chee<br>Charlene Chua<br>Dr Fred Chua<br>Classified Pets<br>Club Pets<br>Crew Magazine<br>Nadia Dawood<br>Dear Design<br>Mantej Delol<br>Digital Life magazine<br>East Coast Town Council<br>Electrico<br>Esplanade<br>Grand Copthorne<br>Waterfront Hotel | Vadivu Govind<br>Habibah Mohamed Saleh<br>Gabriel Ho<br>Dr Hsu Li Chieh<br>Hoover Park<br>neighbourhood<br>Residents' Committee<br>House Rabbits Society of<br>Singapore<br>IS Magazine<br>Jamari Mohtar<br>Jurong Town Council<br>Jeremy Ko<br>Paul Koh<br>Dr Lau Soon Teik<br>Terry Lau<br>June Lee<br>Bernie Leow<br>Helence Lim<br>Simon Lim<br>Lo Pia Yong<br>Gina Loh<br>Dr Lou Ek Hee<br>Dr Jean Paul Ly<br>Marine Crescent Ville<br>Residents' Committee<br>Vanessa Martin<br>Mediacorp News<br>Metta Cats<br>Mount Pleasant Animal<br>Hospital and branches<br>Nanyang Technological<br>University Office of<br>Estate and Amenities<br>Dr Geetha Nathan<br>National Volunteers and<br>Philanthropy Centre<br>National Youth Park<br>Nature Society of<br>Singapore<br>NewsRadio 93.8 | Derrick Ng<br>Noah's Ark Natural<br>Animal Sanctuary<br>Adele Ong<br>Vincent Ong<br>Pet Lovers' Centre<br>Dr Phua Siew Sian<br>Benson Puah<br>Sharon Sim<br>Singapore Cat Club<br>Singapore Management<br>University Office of<br>Facilities Management<br>Singapore Tourism Board<br>Substation<br>Society for the<br>Prevention of Cruelty to<br>Animals<br>SOS Animals<br>Siow Ting Ting<br>Straits Times<br>Treats<br>Dr Tan Chek Wee<br>Tanjong Pagar Town<br>Council<br>Dr Tay Lee Hon<br>Danilla Tham<br>Today<br>Vegetarian Society of<br>Singapore<br>Vet Practice<br>Ned Wanoa<br>Wildaid<br>Wildlife Singapore<br>Patrick Wong<br>World Society for the<br>Protection of Animals<br>Yeo Hong Ming<br>Zocards |
|---|--|---|

We would also like to extend a big thank you to all our volunteers who have worked so tirelessly and without whom, our work would not be possible. Our volunteers help with exhibitions, sterilisation, fostering, mediation, feeding and a range of activities.

In particular, we would especially like to thank the following people who were unstinting in helping the Society so much over the last year :- Lucy Davis, Margaret Widelock, Sean Koh, Tan Jialin, Kavita Manickavasagam, Richard Ng, Christabel Chai, Marcus Lee, Michelle Lee, Dell Chan, Kua Hong Pak, Jan Hengst, Alex Bristow, Lim Ming Foong, Effendy Rahaman, Ian Cheong, Wong Lay Khim, Angeline Tham, Monique Ciochetto, Lim Kim Yang, Alison Soh, Catherine Chong, Rebecca Ho, Kate Ang, Phyllis Aw, Tanya Fink, Foo Wei Fong, Gillian Kwa, Julie Lee, Trish Kelly, Bella Leong, Malcolm Chen, Tan Li Ling, Tang Min Pei and Zee Yeng Yun.