

# Haven Happenings

**Haven Happenings, Issue #27**

**Winter 2018**

[ingridshaven.net.au](http://ingridshaven.net.au)

**Welcome to the latest issue of *Haven Happenings*, the quarterly newsletter from Ingrid's Haven cat sanctuary.**



It is already winter and guess what? I am still getting kittens and pregnant cats.

Of course the influx is not as great as during the summer months, but still.

In the olden days, winter was a break from the kittens and the kitten shed used to be a quick clean during the colder part of the year, but not so any longer.

Other news is that Ingrid's Haven will be a registered shelter soon. It will unfortunately have an impact on the number of cats I can take in as huge changes need to take place.

Gone will be the huge enclosures where the cats have lots of space – these enclosures will be divided into smaller ones with eight cats in each, all with their own litter tray, food and water bowl.

How will I stop Princess from using Blackie's tray? How will I stop Fluffy eating out of PussPuss' bowl? Or Ginger drinking out of any bowl he likes? It is never ending!

Better news is that a new mobile phone friendly website isn't too far away. This one will not have my beloved ginger cat on the grass but orange will be in the logo and there will be so many new cats listed, it will blow your mind. The web address will of course stay the same and I hope you all will love it.

Finally, as always, a huge thank you to all my supporters and followers – without you, this place could never run as it does. I just wanted to remind you all.

**Ingrid & the Cats**



## Beating the winter blues

It's that time of the year again when winter feels like it will never end! While the cold weather and lack of sunlight can leave you feeling rather blue, it's not just humans who get the winter blues!

Here are some tips to help keep your cat warm, cosy and happy during the colder months.



- Whether inside or outside, make sure your cat's bedding is raised off the floor and away from cold drafts. Fill your cat's bed with warm, dry blankets that are washed regularly. You could also try placing a hot water bottle (with warm not hot water) or heat pack into your cat's bedding for some extra warmth.
- If your cat spends most of its time outside, make sure they have somewhere warm and comfortable to retreat to that's in a position where they feel secure and cosy, and away from the seasonal elements.
- Don't forget that young, elderly and sick animals will feel the cold more than others, so are best kept indoors in the colder months.
- You'll probably notice your cat's appetite will increase during winter. This is especially true in outside cats who will use more energy to keep warm. Keep a close eye on your cat's weight ensuring they are nourished, but not overfed from too many winter snacks.
- It may be tempting to turn into a couch potato during the winter months, but exercising your cat is still important. Keep them fit with interactive toys! Laser pointers are a great way to get your kitty moving!
- Open the curtains during the day to let the sun come in and move furniture so your cat can take advantage of the warmth.
- If your pet is struggling to get out of bed then it could be a sign of arthritis or an age related disease. Often these problems are provoked by cold weather so make sure you visit your vet for six-monthly check-ups particularly if your pet is showing signs of ageing.

## Quote of the Day

*In ancient times, cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this.*

*Terry Pratchett*



## Kitten items desperately needed

Ingrid's Haven is in urgent need of the following brands of wet kitten food:

- Royal Canin
- Hills
- Felix

We would also very much appreciate other items for kittens including toys, tunnels and climbing towers.

Please call Ingrid on 0417 360 700 or email [ingridarving@hotmail.com](mailto:ingridarving@hotmail.com) to arrange the drop-off of items.

Thank you for your generous support!



## When did you last check your cat's microchip details?

Microchips are an excellent way of identifying your cat, so it's vital that your details stay up-to-date and your alternative contacts are people you trust with your cat's life!

If you haven't checked or updated your cat's microchip details recently, here are some simple tips to help you get started. Your cat's safety – as well as your peace-of-mind – depends on it!

### Getting your cat scanned for their microchip details

If you don't have your cat's microchip number on file, call your local vet to check that they have a microchip scanner before going; if not, ask them for the details of the nearest microchip scanner facility. Request the microchip number and the name of the register that your pet is listed with (there are several) – your vet may even be able to update your details on the spot.

### Which microchip registry is your cat is on?

There are many microchip registries. To check which registry your cat is listed with, use the following steps:

1. Visit [www.petaddress.com.au](http://www.petaddress.com.au) and enter your cat's microchip number. This site hosts a search engine to search multiple registers at once. If you get a result, it will give you the contact details for the register that your cat is listed with.
2. If you do not have success finding your cat's record using [petaddress.com.au](http://petaddress.com.au), you have two options:
  - a. Contact each register individually with your cat's microchip number to see if they have your record; or
  - b. Take your cat to a vet with a microchip scanner and have the microchip scanned for the number and register.

### You have your cat's microchip and registry details... now what?

If you have your cat's registry details, simply contact the register and ask them to update your file. Remember to update your details with your local council as well. Make sure your address, phone numbers and alternative contact person's details are correct and up-to-date.

## Happy tails



Hi Ingrid

How are you?

I thought you might like some news on Chevy and the little girl kitten I adopted from you a few weeks ago.

I decided to call the little girl Grey on account of her grey stripes! She's a complete purr machine and today finally hit one kilogram! The vet and I were very excited.

Chevy is absolutely gorgeous and ever so gentle with his adopted sister – they play

hugs with each other and he grooms her from time to time which is lovely to watch.

I've attached a pic for you.

Michelle x



Hello Ingrid



I hope you have been well. It's getting quite cold and I hope you and Cats are staying warm.

It has been three months since I welcomed Sumi. The joy and happiness she brings are absolutely beyond what I expected...

As you mentioned, she eats everything and is very keen on my food too (I don't let her eat it but I do feel pressured haha!).

Thank you again for allowing me to have such a lovely girl in my life.

Please take care and say hello to all the ladies and the cats for me.

Kind regards,  
Naoko



## International Cat Day – 8 August



There are about as many ways to celebrate International Cat Day as there are varieties of cats! Here are some fun ways you and your cat can celebrate!

### **Plant some catnip**

You may be familiar with the catnip herb. You may have even purchased catnip stuffed toys at the pet store. This year, why don't you consider planting some catnip? Catnip grows well in a pot on a sunny windowsill and if your cat enjoys it, then you can provide your kitty with hours of entertainment year-round.

### **Give your cat its own water glasses for the day**

You know how cats prefer your water glass to their own bowl? Why not find some wide lipped, shorter glasses (short, cocktail-type glasses work well), fill them with water and leave them near your cat's favourite napping spots!

### **Do yoga with your cat**

As we all know, cats love to stretch so grab your yoga mat and do your favourite yoga poses next to your cat. Or mix it up a bit by mimicking your cat's poses.

### **Gift your kitty a new box!**

I've never met a cat that doesn't like a box! Spoil them with a new cardboard and delight in the crazy cat antics that follow!

### **Try out some new treats**

Treats are a great way to pamper your feline. Splurge on a couple of new varieties and see which ones your cat enjoys the most!

### **Take a nap**

End your fun day with some zzzzs. Cuddle with your kitty first, then find a comfy place to take a cat nap with your cat. Bliss!

### **Donate to Ingrid's Haven**

Spread the love and make a donation to Ingrid's Haven – your generous gift will help save lives

