

TassieCat: working with councils
and the community to improve
cat management and
responsible cat ownership

Nikki Brookman

Regional Cat Management Coordinator



Tasmanian context

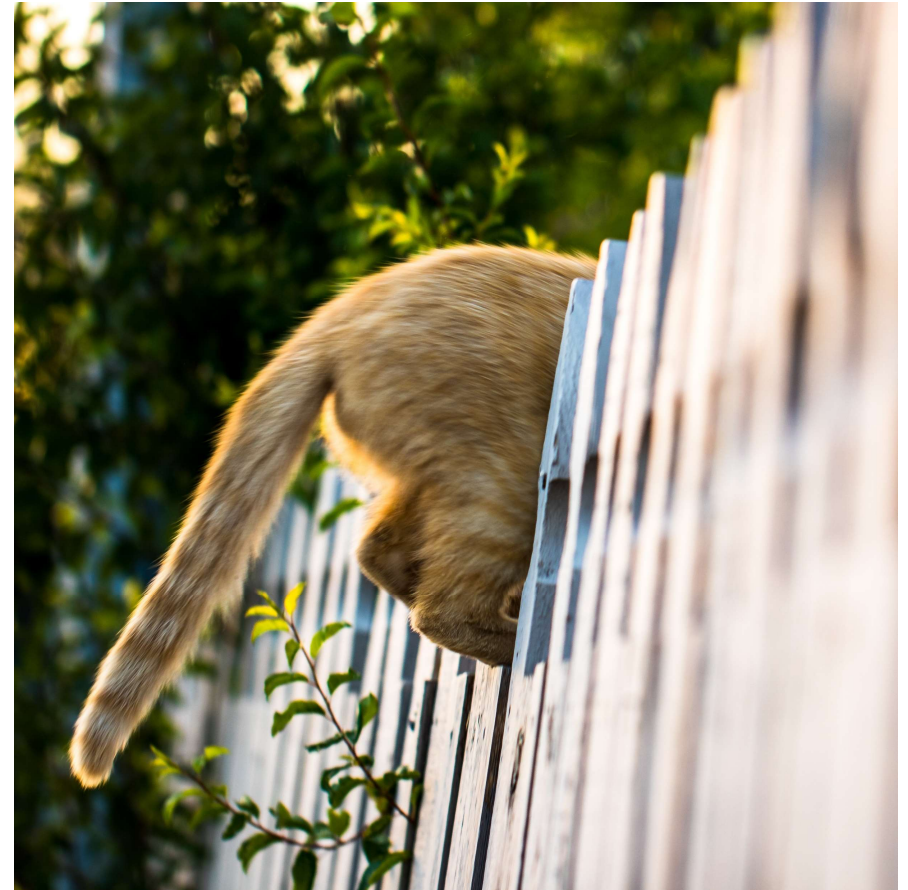
- Tasmanian Cat Management Act 2009
- State-wide management plan 2017-2022
- Funding from State Government to implement the plan
- Our project was created in mid 2018
- Work with key partners to support and promote cat management

“Let’s keep our cats,
communities and
wildlife safe”



Legislation

- An amended Cat Management Act is due to be proclaimed in early 2021
- Desexing and microchipping will be compulsory from 4 months of age
- Number of cats per property without a permit limited to four
- Compulsory containment & registration have not been included
- Local Government



Why do we need to manage cats better?

- In Australia 390 million animals are killed by domestic cats annually, of which, 241 million are native.
- A roaming pet cat kills an average of 186 animals a year, of which, 115 are native.
- Contributed to the extinction of over 20 native species

Impact on native wildlife



Eastern Barred Bandicoot

Photo: M. Oorebeek

Why do we need to manage cats better?

- Risks to roaming pet cats
- Abandonment and hoarding cases

Cat Welfare



Why do we need to manage cats better?

- Frustrated community
 - Spraying
 - Defecating in sandpits and vegetable gardens
 - Fighting
 - Hunting wildlife
 - Noise disturbances
 - Intimidating pets

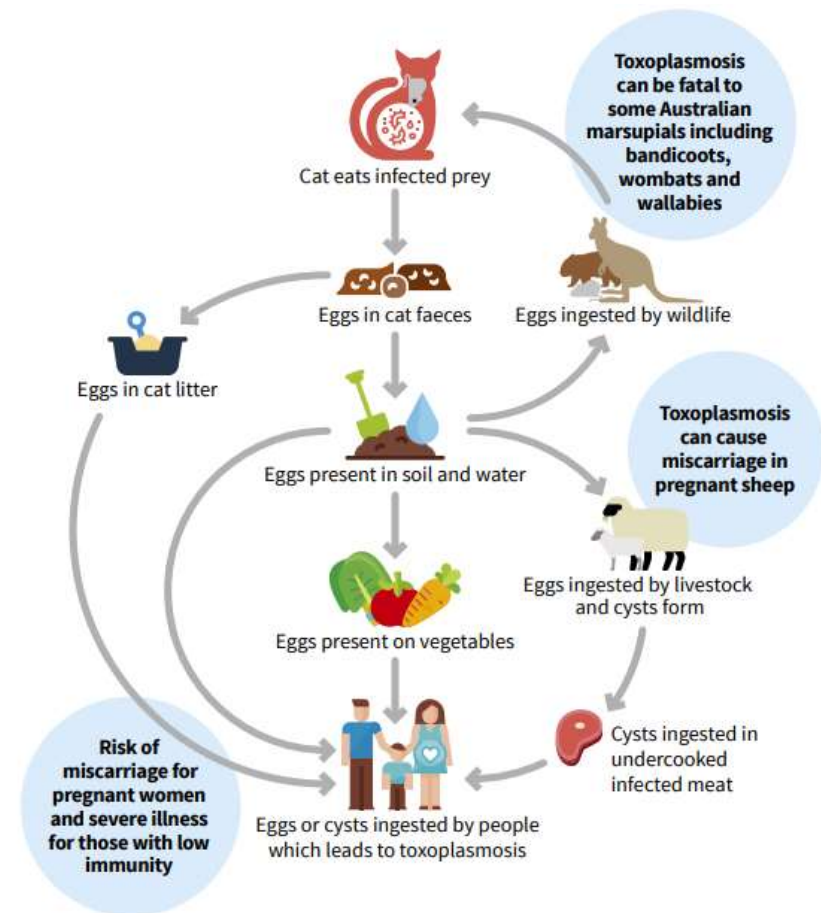
Community
disruption



Why do we need to manage cats better?

- Spread of diseases such as toxoplasmosis
- Health impact on native animals, livestock and human health

Disease



Sharing Responsibility

- Facilitating a collaborative approach through regional working groups
- Development of regional management strategies
- Provide support and resources to Councils
- Best practice information & communications materials for public



The Tasmanian Cat Management Project is a joint initiative to promote and facilitate responsible cat ownership in the Tasmanian community. The project is supported by Cradle Coast Authority NRM, Kingborough Council, and HEMA North through funding from the Tasmanian Government.

Challenges for Councils

- Resources and expertise
- Isolation
- Availability of cat management services



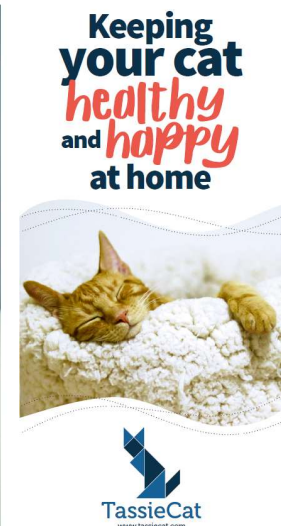
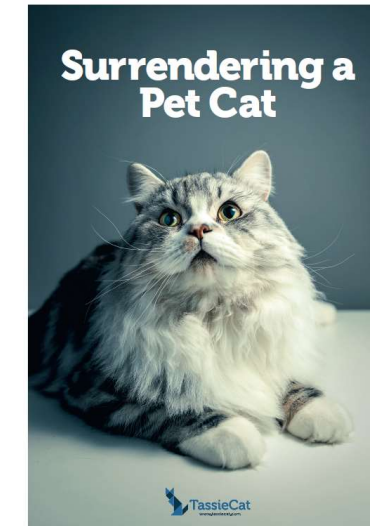
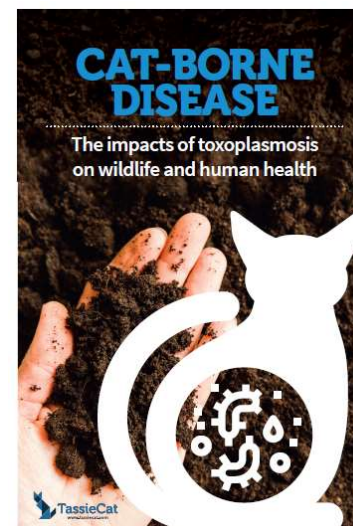
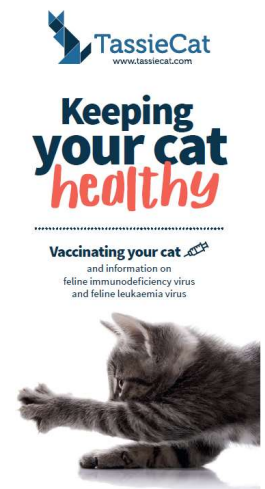
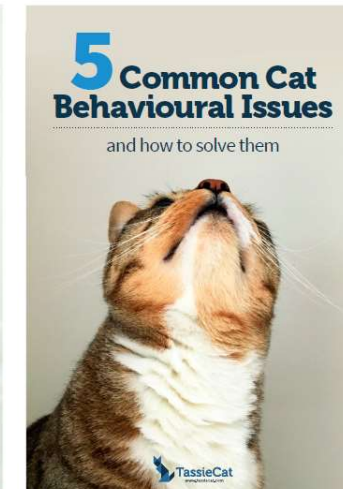
TassieCat campaign

- Aims to create behaviour change to more responsible cat ownership



TassieCat campaign

- Messages are positive
- Framed in terms of cat welfare
- Delivered through a variety of media



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Keep your cat safe at home

Keeping your cat on your property at all times reduces its risk of becoming injured, lost or sick.



Visit www.tassiecat.com to learn how you can keep your cat happy and healthy at home.

Introducing a new cat into the household

Tips and tricks

TassieCat

How to train your cat to walk on a leash and harness

General tips for training your cat

To start the training:

- 1) Introduce the harness and leash to your cat in a calm, quiet area.
- 2) Reward your cat with a treat or praise when they wear the harness and leash.
- 3) Practice walking on the leash in a safe, enclosed area.
- 4) Gradually increase the distance and duration of walks.
- 5) Use a clicker to mark good behavior.
- 6) Practice walking on the leash in a safe, enclosed area.
- 7) Practice walking on the leash in a safe, enclosed area.

Leash training your cat

Keep your cat walking on a leash and harness in a safe, enclosed area.

Enrichment: Make staying at home fun for your cat

There are three types of enrichment:

Environmental enrichment

Mental enrichment

Social enrichment

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**LET'S KEEP OUR
CATS, COMMUNITIES
AND WILDLIFE SAFE**



Resources



Microchipping your cat



Getting your cat desexed



Cat health



Keeping your cat happy at home



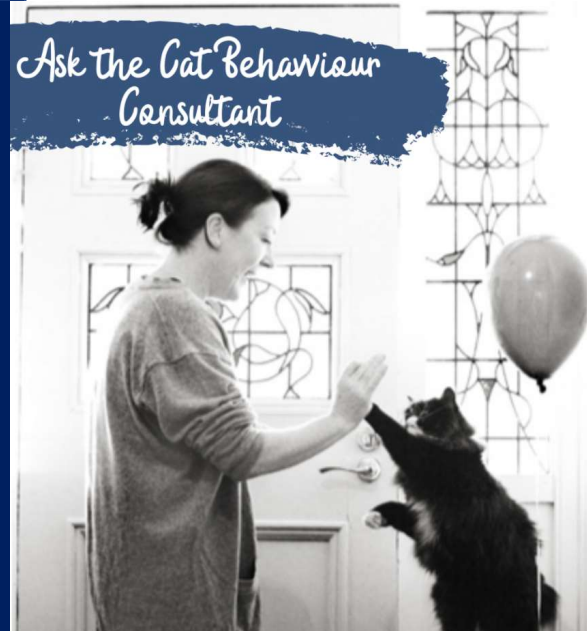
How to transition your cat to a life at home



Cat containment solutions

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Ask the Cat Behaviour Consultant

How To Train Your Cat To Walk On A Leash & Harness

General Tips To Start Training Your Cat



CAT OWNERS TIP

CLEAN OUT THEIR LITTER BOX EVERYDAY

A graphic with a red and white background. It features two white paw prints on a dark blue background at the top. In the center, there is a circular inset showing a close-up of a kitten's face. Below the kitten, the text "CAT OWNERS TIP" is written in small, dark letters. At the bottom, the text "CLEAN OUT THEIR LITTER BOX EVERYDAY" is written in large, bold, white letters on a red background.

TassieCat DIY
Build a Catio This Summer



Progress

- Increased interest in cat management and responsible ownership
- Growing community expectation that cats are managed
- Stakeholders empowered to proactively manage cats

