## **SYDNEY DOGS & CATS HOME**

PO BOX 4105, KOGARAH BAY NSW 2217 🛛 SYDNEYDOGSANDCATSHOME.ORG Q 02 9587 9611

ABN: 16 943 464 585 CFN: 16738

### MEDIA RELEASE

Date: 08/04/2021 Embargoed Date: 09/04/2021 4pm

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### Headline: Sydney Animal Shelter Urgently Appealing for Funds During Kitten Influx

Over the last few months, Sydney Dogs & Cats Home has been caring for an influx of kittens that have been arriving with council rangers due to warm weather and increased breeding. Kittens have arrived from multiple local government areas across Sydney including Bayside, Fairfield, Georges River, North Sydney and Waverley.

As Sydney's only charity pound, the shelter is appealing to the community to help fund their 'Kitten Kitty' and ensure every treatable kitten receives the life-saving care they need.

Sydney Dogs & Cats Home Animal Care Manager Dr Renae Jackson said the Home has been caring for an increase in kittens since November, which is taking a financial toll on the charity.

"Every year from November to June, dozens of kittens arrive each week desperately requiring veterinary care," she said.

"Many kittens arrive with highly contagious health concerns like cat flu, ringworm and parasites, which can be expensive to treat. It can cost upwards of \$1500 to care for a kitten from impound to adoption."

Sydney Dogs & Cats Home General Manager Mark Hearnden said the shelter developed the 'Kitten Kitty' to ensure every kitten receives the treatment and care they need.

"We support the Getting to Zero movement, which means we strive to rehome every healthy and treatable kitten that comes through our doors, and we never place a time limit on any animal awaiting adoption" he said.

"That's why we created the 'Kitten Kitty' a few years ago, to ensure we can keep this promise for our kittens. But the Kitten Kitty is running dangerously low, and we need community support to raise \$49,500 by the end of April to ensure we can continue to care for the many kittens that will arrive in the following months."

Sydney Dogs & Cats Home has cared for over 186 kittens since the beginning of this kitten season. After their treatment and care, the kittens become available for adoption on the Sydney Dogs & Cats Home website, looking for homes that best suit their individual needs.

To make a contribution to the Kitten Kitty, visit https://sydneydogsandcatshome.giveeasy.org/kitten-kitty-2021.

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Image	Caption
	Pongo was brought to Sydney Dogs & Cats Home in January by a council ranger. He was suffering from a severe case of cat flu, making his eyes gunky and impairing his vision. Pongo received antibiotics and eye drops, which cured his symptoms within days. Pongo was adopted in early March, and spends his days cuddling and climbing all over his new mum.
	Pongo's adoption photo after recovery
	The champagne kittens (Annie, Pepper and Duff) were brought to Sydney Dogs & Cats Home in late March with gunky eyes and suspected ringworm. The vets at the Home wiped down their eyes and sent them into foster care for ringworm treatment.
	Animal Care Manager and Vet Dr Renae Jackson caring for Misty the kitten



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### **Contact Information:**

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### **ABOUT US**

Sydney Dogs & Cats Home is Sydney's only charity pound and community facility.

The Home has been taking care of Sydney's lost, abandoned and neglected pets since 1946. Today we open our doors to up to 3,000 pets each year, servicing multiple council areas across Sydney including Bayside, Fairfield, Georges River, Inner West, North Sydney, Randwick, Waverley, and Woollahra. We pride ourselves on never placing a time limit on any animal awaiting adoption.

The Homes also delivers a range of successful mental health-focused community programs, creating a lifeline to both the animals we care for and those in the community who need it most.

#### **OUR VISION**

To be Australia's leading shelter for companion animals by improving the lives of our animals and people.

#### **OUR MISSION**

To responsibly reunite, rehome and rehabilitate companion animals in our care; whilst providing the highest level of service to the wider community.

